



## ***News Release***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **The Board of Hispanic Caucus Chairs Honors Victims of Boston Marathon Tragedy**

In light of the recent tragedy that struck the city of Boston, Chairperson Maria A. “Toni” Berrios (D-IL) and the entire Board of Hispanic Caucus Chairs (BHCC) offers its thoughts and prayers to all those affected by the violent attack on the Boston Marathon and extends its sincerest condolences to all those families who lost loved ones in the attack. The city of Boston is a historically beautiful American municipality and all of our members express their deepest sadness following an attack of this nature. The city and its citizens opened their arms last December, when they graciously hosted the BHCC 7th Annual Conference and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Latina State Legislative Caucus (LSLC) Summit. During this time, members and staff from across the country were exposed to the magnificent character of the city, its local officials, and its people. And it is with this first-hand perspective that we find comfort knowing that Bostonians are high quality citizens that embody the spirit of resilience and community that will be the core of the recovery following these attacks.

The BHCC is proud to have two of its most prominent members call Boston home, including Chairman Jeffrey Sanchez (D-MA) who serves as the BHCC Secretary on the organization's executive board and represents the 15th Suffolk/Norfolk District, which includes the Boston communities of Mission Hill, Jamaica Plain, and Roslindale.

In conjunction with our BHCC members from Massachusetts and their respective relief efforts, the BHCC will aid in the support efforts of the affected individuals and communities following these tragic acts of terrorism in all ways possible. In further response to the attacks, the BHCC has committed to host an emergency preparedness and response panel at the next annual meeting. The panel discussion will concentrate on how local, state and federal authorities can best coordinate to maximize efforts to prevent and or respond effectively when attacks of this nature or similar emergency situations occur.

However, this tragedy extends far beyond the city of Boston and the United States. It affects all of the communities from which all of the domestic and international participants hail. Our thoughts and prayers are with these communities as well as they struggle with the impact of this tragedy. We hope that all those affected may find comfort in the coming days. With the backing of the entirety of the BHCC's network of Latino state legislative leaders, we pray for the victims, their families and the entire city of Boston. May we forever persevere.

### **About the Board of Hispanic Caucus Chairs**

The Board of Hispanic Caucus Chairs (BHCC) is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization comprised of the current chairs and vice chairs of all state Hispanic caucuses, as well as the Hispanic legislators who serve as the chairs of their respective state legislative committees and or other state legislative leadership positions. The BHCC strives to provide a medium for Hispanic leaders to engage in substantive dialogue, as well as address pressing issues in the Hispanic community and the nation as a whole. If you would like to learn more about the BHCC please visit our website at [www.bohcc.com](http://www.bohcc.com) or contact Gabriel Sepulveda at (512) 275-1905, [Gabriel@bohcc.com](mailto:Gabriel@bohcc.com).

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