

NELSON A. DIAZ

Nelson A. Diaz has been recognized as both an outstanding Hispanic Leader and a skilled manager working in the areas of public policy, law, international affairs and the judiciary for over 30 years.

A partner at Blank Rome LLP, Nelson has previously distinguished himself as City Solicitor of Philadelphia, General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) and a Judge and Administrative Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia. He was appointed by the President of the United States, Mayors, Governors and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to these positions of responsibility and management of large complex systems. He is the first Puerto Rican/Latino to hold many of these positions.

As an effective manager of the courts as its Administrative Judge, Nelson reinvented a trial division of 1,500 employers and 90 judges into a nationally recognized efficient case flow system while at the same time saving millions of dollars in personnel cost. While at HUD, he reformed public housing programs through the use of litigation settlements and leading opinions on mixed financing programs. As City Solicitor, he increased tax collections, reduced litigation and professionalized the family court program of services to dependent children.

Nelson has worked closely with the business community from his early days of revitalization and economic development of Philadelphia urban communities. As a corporate and civic director, Nelson serves on the Board of Exelon Corporation, Temple University, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia Commercial Development Corporation and the Advisory Board of PNC Bank. He also served on the Board of Directors of Legg Mason Mutual Funds, the William Penn Foundation, Independence Blue Cross, and the Greater Philadelphia First Corporation, and Chaired the Hispanic Caucus of the Democratic National Committee. He was recognized by Hispanic Business as one of the 100 most influential Hispanics in America.

Nelson received a Bachelor of Science in accounting from St. John’s University and a law degree from Temple University. He was selected a White House Fellow and a Fulbright recipient as well as receiving many awards and honors including five honorary doctorates. Born and raised in Harlem, Nelson is cited in numerous books for his leadership and commitment to ethics/good governance.

Nelson is admitted to practice law in Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C. and New York. He serves on numerous non-profit boards and professional associations.

A resident of Philadelphia, he is married and has three children.