

MELINDA GUZMAN



MELINDA GUZMAN is CEO of Melinda Guzman Professional Corporation. She is a proven litigator, successful mediator, an effective business negotiator and work-out counsel. She is a dedicated public servant with expertise in finance, governance, employment, higher education and business. She is highly regarded for her work on governance issues and she is a noted speaker and trainer on the fiduciary duties of officers and directors of boards of directors. She is a proven leader with a confirmed track record.

Ms. Guzman has served as general counsel to companies ranging in size from small, family-owned companies to corporations in excess of \$100 million in assets. She is astute in analyzing business needs and practical in assessing a company's financial and operational status. Ms. Guzman is also effective in working with financially troubled companies as they work to avoid or successfully complete bankruptcy. As a litigator, Ms. Guzman is respected for her quick ability to analyze disputes and for resolving issues with the client's business needs in mind. In all of her work, her clients have praised her for her "aggressive, enthusiastic, prepared approach." Ms. Guzman serves as legal counsel to many insurance companies in California.

Ms. Guzman has served on numerous boards. She is an independent director for the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco since 2007 where she is Chair of the bank's External Affairs Committee and Vice Chair of the Governance Committee. She also served as an independent director of Pac-West Telecomm, Inc. from 2004-05. From 2004 – 2010, she served as General Counsel of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and its subsidiaries, including a foundation, national television show and a \$150 MM venture capital fund. She is a Past Chairwoman of the California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce (2001-2005), and the Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (1997). Ms. Guzman is highly regarded for her work with small businesses to help grow and develop this important economic base.

Ms. Guzman has served on many higher education boards. She served as a Trustee of the California State University system (2004 - 2012), Commissioner for the California Post-Secondary Commission (2006 – 2011), and as Governor for the California Community Colleges. She currently serves as Chair of the California Insurance Diversity Task Force for California's Department of Insurance.

Ms. Guzman generously gives of her time in the community. She was recently honored with the *Ohtli* award for her work in supporting economic and educational programs between California and Mexico. The *Ohtli* is a presidential medal of honor and the highest recognition of Mexico to individuals who create pathways of success.

Ms. Guzman was honored by PBS/KVIE in its national "Makers: Women Who Make America," <http://vids.kvie.org/video/2337418518/>, as a "Latina Leader" by Hispanic Lifestyle Magazine in 2013, with the "Woman of the Year Award - *Mujer Cambiando el Mundo*" in 2013 by the Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the "Latina Leader of the Year" for 2011 by the Latino Journal Magazine, with the national "Latina Leadership Award" by Latino Leaders Magazine in 2008 and was named one of The 100 Influentials by Hispanic Business magazine in 2004. She has also been honored by the National Association of Women Business Owners with the Luminary Award, by the Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce as its 1999 and 2005 Business Woman of the Year, by the Sacramento Business Journal as its Top "40 under 40" dynamic young achievers and by Univision and McDonalds Corporations for her leadership in the Hispanic Community. She is a well-respected for her ethics and integrity and is recognized for creating and developing programs that promote education, business and governance.

Ms. Guzman was born and raised in Fairfield, California and is the daughter of the late Amado Guzman and Anita Guzman of Fairfield. She is a first generation college graduate of the University of California at Davis (B.A., 1985; J.D., 1988). She is a proud mother and grandmother.