



# CITY OF PLAINFIELD

## Press Release

**Office of the Mayor**  
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### **FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION AND PUBLICATION**

#### **Commissioners to Plainfield Advisory Commission on Hispanic Affairs Press Conference**

PLAINFIELD, NJ (May 17, 2010) – Mayor Sharon Robinson-Briggs and Assemblyman Jerry Green met with Plainfield Hispanic residents to discuss the need to have a commission that will specifically address their concerns and issues related to the Hispanic portion of our population. The Mayor has agreed to initiate and nominate members of the community to serve on this commission which was presented in 2005 under Article 3:38. Although this Commission has never formally had Commissioners, it will now.

The Plainfield Advisory Commission on Hispanic Affairs was the brainchild of former councilman Ray Blanco and co-writer, Norman E. Ortega. The ordinance was introduced and passed in 2005. Commissioners have not been appointed until now. The objectives of the commission is to “advise the Mayor and City Council on the needs, concerns, accomplishments and contributions of the Hispanic community, as well as the impact of legislation and its effect on the Hispanic community.”

The idea behind the creation of an advisory board on Hispanic affairs rose from the understanding that Plainfield needs to remain competitive and that ability depends on promoting empowerment, strengths, inclusiveness, skills, talents and integration of our diverse communities. In Plainfield, and in many ways the Hispanic community, is already transforming the economy of our city, thus improving the lives of our residents. As the Hispanic community grows and its integration takes place, it is important to have an understanding of its needs and accomplishments to promote opportunities and participation for all. This is the true objective of the Advisory Commission on Hispanic Affairs.

For the June, 2010 City Council Meeting, Mayor Sharon Robinson-Briggs will place on the agenda for review and consent, the following individuals to serve as Commissioners:



Norman E. Ortega, Plainfield, NJ

- Founder and Chair, Angels in Action Foundation
- Former Director, Centro Hispano Americano
- Community Activist

Silvana Mullen, Plainfield NJ

- Community Activist
- Volunteer and Member, L.A.S.O.

Edgar Freire, Plainfield, NJ

- Administrative Director, Angels in Action Foundation

Doris Cera, Plainfield, NJ

- Spanish Teacher, Plainfield High School
- Spanish Teacher, Angels in Action Foundation

Darwin Rosario, Plainfield, NJ

- Community Organizer

Per Mayor Robinson-Briggs, on behalf of the City of Plainfield, I extend my thanks and appreciation to Assemblyman Green, Norman Ortega and all others mentioned above, for their desire to partner with the City of Plainfield, for the benefit of the residents of Hispanic descent. We look forward to the Commission working with our Human Relations Commissions and all other Commissions, to help foster unity and harmony in our community.

**END**