



OFFICE OF ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER

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Treasurer Frerichs Honors Hispanic Leaders And Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

CHICAGO – Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs today hosted a celebration to commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month at the new state government building at 555 W. Monroe St.

The event was an opportunity to reflect on the great achievements of Hispanics and present awards to leaders in the community, including an ultramarathon runner, a popular late legislative staff member and a human rights chair.

“Today, let us take a moment to recognize the contributions of our Hispanic and Latino neighbors,” Frerichs said. “Let’s celebrate their dedication to making our communities a better place to live, work, and raise a family.”

Hispanic Heritage Month is a national observance. In 1968, President Lyndon Johnson established a Hispanic Heritage Week. In 1988, President Ronald Reagan expanded the celebration to a month.

The theme of this year’s Hispanic Heritage Month is “Unidos: Inclusivity for a Stronger Nation.” The theme encourages us to ensure that all voices are represented and welcomed to help build stronger communities and a stronger nation.

Treasurer Frerichs honored the following individuals for their outstanding commitment to their Illinois communities:

Outstanding Service in Business

Jose Sanchez

President & CEO | Humboldt Park Health

Outstanding Service in Leadership

Mona Noriega

Chair | Illinois Human Rights Commission

Outstanding Commitment in Education

Dr. Andrea Guerrero

Superintendent | Waverly Community Unit School District #6

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Outstanding Commitment in Community Service

Ivan Gonzalez (posthumous)

Chief of Staff | State Sen. Omar Aquino

Outstanding Commitment as an Elected Official

Hon. Omar Aquino

Illinois State Senator | 2nd District

Outstanding Achievement in Workforce and Labor

Mario Lopez

Political Director | SEIU Local 1

Outstanding Achievement in Sportsmanship

Edna Jackeline Vazquez Nunez

Ultramarathon Runner

Outstanding Achievement in Arts and Humanity

Enrique Morales

Co-founder | Northwest Arts Connection

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