



Thursday, November 18, 2010

Voting Rights

4:00pm – 5:30pm: Panel Discussion

5:30pm – 6:30pm Reception

1.25 General CLE credits Pending – Free Program

RSVP to ohnoj@seattleu.edu or call (206) 398-4283 by November 12, 2010

Moderated by

Joaquin Avila

Distinguished Practitioner in Residence and Director, National Voting Rights Advocacy Initiative

Panelists:

Eugene Lee, Project Director, Voting Rights, Asian Pacific American Legal Center

Robert Rubin, Legal Director for the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco

Jose Garza, Voting Rights Attorney, League of United Latin American Citizens

Laughlin McDonald, Director of the Voting Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union and author of *American Indians and the Fight for Equal Voting Rights*

Diana Sen, Associate Counsel for Latino Justice (formerly known as the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Educational Fund)

This CLE will focus on the redistrictings of election districts for congressional, state legislative and local offices. Redistrictings are important because they can result in a more equitable distribution of governmental resources by elected officials who may be more responsive to the needs of minority communities. The importance of redistrictings is further highlighted since the process occurs for the most part once every ten years. The panel will consist of distinguished voting rights practitioners from across the country, some of whom have argued before the United States Supreme Court. The panel, moderated by Joaquin G. Avila, Distinguished Practitioner in Residence and Executive Director of the Law School's National Voting Rights Advocacy Initiative, will discuss the challenges facing local minority communities in securing access to the relevant census data and expertise to formulate alternative redistricting plans that do not fragment or over-concentrate politically cohesive minority communities. In addition, the panel will explore recent federal precedent and amendments to the federal Voting Rights Act and their impact on legal standards that will guide this redistricting cycle.

For the SU Law CLE Calendar go to:

http://www.law.seattleu.edu/Continuing_Legal_Education.xml

This program has been made possible by the generosity of the Seattle University School of Law Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality and the Ford Foundation