

# CABA GOES TO WASHINGTON

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## Twelve members of the Cuban American Bar Association were admitted to the Supreme Court of the United States



Helen Montoya, in the back from the left, Patrick Montoya, Michael Fernandez, Alfonso Leon, Fabian Ruiz, Andrew Platt, Amanda Demanda, and Daniel Buigas. In the second row from the left are Antony Page and Haydee Sera. In the third row from the left are Timothy Brown, Julia Smylie, Melissa Corrales, Alejandro Torvis, Emily Balter, Giselle Gutierrez, Elizabeth Iglesias, Madeleine Plasencia, Javier Ley-Soto, and Augusto Perera. In the fourth row are Julian Ley-Soto, Javier Ley-Soto, Jr., and Jennifer Ley-Soto. Photo by Teresa Estefan of EvClay Public Relations.

Twelve members of the Cuban American Bar Association were recently admitted to the Supreme Court of the United States.

After the ceremony in Washington, D.C., and in anticipation of Florida's Victims of Communism Day, CABA President Giselle Gutierrez hosted a press conference at the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation statue. The conference delved into a

discussion about CABA's pending petition before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights on behalf of 52 political prisoners, including minors, who were arrested in connection with civil protests in Cuba on July 11, 2021.



**CABA President Giselle Cutierrez hosted a press conference at the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation statue. Photo by Teresa Estefan of EvClay Public Relations.**

“This visit marked a pivotal milestone for CABA as it sought to establish a more prominent presence in the nation’s capital,” Gutierrez said. “CABA is now better equipped to advance its mission and advocacy efforts. Looking ahead, the organization is committed to building upon the connections forged during this trip, signaling the initial stride toward a more significant presence in Washington.”

As part of the broader retreat in Washington, CABA also engaged in a series of strategic meetings, including:

- Meetings with legislators and staff, including: Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart, Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Rep. María Elvira Salazar’s staff, Sen. Marco Rubio’s staff, Sen. Rick Scott’s staff.
- Lunch and Learn with Noel Francisco, the 47th solicitor general of the United States, and Eliot Pedrosa from

Jones Day.

- Florida International University gathering with speakers Rep. Carlos A. Giménez, FIU CasaCuba Executive Director Lili Betancourt Space, and Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Carlos A. Costa Immigration Human Rights Clinic, Juan Carlos Gomez.
- Meeting with Christopher Hernandez-Roy of the Center for Strategic and International Studies and a representative from the National Endowment for Democracy.
- Meeting with U.S.Ambassador Francisco O. Mora to the Organization of American States.
- Meeting with Deputy Executive Secretary Jorge Meza Flores with the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights.
- Meeting with State Department and Homeland Security staff.