

**Manuel Mirabal  
President & CEO  
National Puerto Rican Coalition, Inc.**

Manuel Mirabal is the President of the National Puerto Rican Coalition, Inc. (NPRC). NPRC is the leading national advocacy and public policy organization representing the Puerto Rican community in Washington, D.C. NPRC is a non-profit organization founded in 1977 to advance the social, political and economic well-being of the Puerto Rican community, and has a membership network of over 400 civic organizations throughout the United States and Puerto Rico.

Mr. Mirabal is an outspoken national leader with a distinguished career in the public and private sectors. He has been recognized as one of the 100 most influential Hispanics in the United States and as one of the twenty-five most influential Hispanics in Washington, D.C. He has been highly visible in the leadership effort to ensure the participation of Hispanics within the federal government structure.

Mr. Mirabal serves as the Chair of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, (NHLA). NHLA is an organization composed of a coalition of 35 National Hispanic organizations and civic leaders that advocates and monitors the responsiveness of Congress and the Administration in addressing issues affecting the Hispanic community. It also works to ensure the inclusion of Hispanics in appointed and career executive policy making positions in the federal government.

Mr. Mirabal also serves as the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility, (HACR). HACR is a coalition of ten national Hispanic organizations working to ensure the inclusion of Hispanics in Corporate America in the areas of governance, procurement, franchising, employment, and philanthropy.

In May of 1998, Mr. Mirabal led a national protest against NBC Network for having televised an episode of the Seinfeld Show offensive to Latinos. The show portrayed the Puerto Rican community in a negative manner. It stereotyped Hispanics as a rioting mob and contained a highly offensive scene in which a Puerto Rican flag was burned. As a result of Mr. Mirabal's leadership, community protests were held nationally and the issue received widespread coverage in all major news media. The President of the NBC Network subsequently apologized for the failure of NBC to prevent the insulting show from being broadcast and gave Mr. Mirabal a commitment that NBC would never re-run the episode.

From 1994 to 1996, Mr. Mirabal served as Chair of the National Steering Committee of the Puerto Rican Leadership Summit, (Boricua First). Boricua First sponsored "Camina Con Nosotros", a national affirmation day held in Washington, DC on March 29, 1996. Boricua First! was attended by seven thousand persons that participated in delivering a national public policy agenda to Congress and the Clinton Administration. This day also marked the first public tribute given to Puerto Rican Veterans by the President of the United States and the Department of Veterans Affairs at a historic ceremony held at the National Vietnam War Memorial.

Immediately before his selection as NPRC's President, Mr. Mirabal was a member of one of New York's most prominent law firms, Finkelstein, Borah, Schwartz, Altschuler & Goldstein. Mr. Mirabal served as the firm's chief specialist for real-estate regulatory law and government matters and was a member of the Housing Court Council of the New York State Court Administration. Prior to this, he served as Deputy Commissioner of the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal