

JUSTICE PATRICIO M. SERNA

Patricio M. Serna is currently a Justice of the New Mexico Supreme Court, having been sworn in on December 5, 1996. He served as Chief Justice during 2001 and 2002. He was appointed as a District Court Judge to the First Judicial District in Santa Fe and served for over 11 years, from 1985 until 1996, during which he was also President of the New Mexico District Judges Association.

Among his awards and honors, he was named one of Hispanic Business Magazine's 100 Most Influential Hispanics in America, received the Judge of the Year Award from the National Hispanic Bar Association, and received the Outstanding Lawyer Award from the New Mexico Hispanic Bar Association. He is a former President/Moderator of the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts and remains on the Board of Directors. In 2006, the Justice received the Excellence in Jurisprudence award from the University of New Mexico Law Review. Also in 2006, he was appointed to the Board of Advisors for the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System, University of Denver.

As the first person in his family to attend college, he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the College of St. Joseph on the Rio Grande, a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Denver School of Law, a Master of Laws degree from Harvard Law School, and an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the University of Denver School of Law. He taught as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law School and Columbus School of Law at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.