



Photo courtesy of the Latina Lawyers Bar Association

Little Mendelson PC shareholder Rebecca M. Aragon, left, presents honoree Catherine J.K. Sandoval with her award.

Trailblazer recognized at Latina bar event

At its July 18 reception, Celebrating Latinas in the Legal Community, the Latina Lawyers Bar Association lauded the legal and humanitarian contributions of Catherine J.K. Sandoval, who recently became the first Latina appointed to the state Public Utilities Commission in its century of existence.

A native of East Los Angeles and the first in her family to graduate from college, Sandoval attended Stanford Law School and was the first Latina to win a Rhodes scholarship. After law school, she clerked for 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Dorothy Nelson.

Elizabeth A. Camacho, co-president of the bar association, called Sandoval's legacy "a fine example of a role model whose wisdom, knowledge and understanding has lifted our communities to a brighter, more just society."

Prior to Sandoval's appointment to the PUC, she was a tenured professor at Santa Clara University School of Law and served as vice president and general counsel for Z-Spanish Media Corp., where she provided legal advice on mergers and acquisitions.

— Ben Adlin