

Yeshiva University, Cardozo School of Law

## LARC @ Cardozo Law

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Event Invitations 2018

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3-21-2018

### Learning From the Masters

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Benedict Morelli Trial Team

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# CARDOZO LAW

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## YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

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Dean Melanie Leslie and  
The Benedict Morelli Trial Team  
invite you to the  
Speaker Series:

### *Learning From the Masters*



**with**  
**Chief Judge Dora L. Irizarry,**  
**United States District Court**  
**Judge for the Eastern District of**  
**New York**

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**Wednesday, March 21, 2018**  
**6 p.m.**

Jacob Burns Moot Court Room  
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law  
55 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY

Speech from 6-7 p.m.  
Reception starting at 7 p.m.

[Register here](#)

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Appointed by the President of the United States in 2004, Dora L. Irizarry is the first Hispanic District Judge to serve in the Eastern District of New York. On April 23, 2016, she became the first Hispanic Chief Judge of that court and the first Hispanic woman Chief Judge within the Second Circuit.

Born in Puerto Rico and raised in the South Bronx, Judge Irizarry graduated *cum laude* with honors and distinction in the major of Political Sociology from Yale University. In 1979, upon graduating from Columbia University School of Law, where she was a Charles Evans Hughes Fellow, she joined the Bronx District Attorney's Appeals Bureau. She later was assigned to the New York City Special Narcotics Prosecutor's Office, and also served in the New York County District Attorney's Office, the New York State Attorney General's Organized Crime Task Force, and as a special prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. In 1995, she was appointed a New York City Criminal Court Judge. In 1997, Judge Irizarry became the first Hispanic woman appointed to the New York State Court of Claims and the first Hispanic woman to sit in Kings County Supreme Court. Thereafter, she sat in New York County Supreme Court.

In 2002, she left the bench to run for New York State Attorney General, becoming the first Hispanic woman ever to run for statewide office. She then became Of Counsel to the New York City firm of Hogue Newman & Regal, LLP, specializing in commercial and employment litigation, until her ascension to the federal bench.

United States Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. recently re-appointed Judge Irizarry to the Federal-State Jurisdiction Committee of the Judicial Conference for a second three-year term. She also serves on the Second Circuit's State-Federal Judicial Council. She previously served on the Eastern District's Criminal Justice Act Panel Committee, where she spearheaded the implementation of a Mentoring Program to increase the diversity of qualified applicants to the Criminal Justice Act Panel.

Since 2005, Judge Irizarry has presided over a drug re-entry court providing intensive post-conviction supervision to persons whose crimes were motivated by addiction to make them productive members of society and reduce recidivism. She has organized and participated in many continuing legal education programs and career panels. A dedicated mentor to students and attorneys alike, Judge Irizarry has received numerous awards for her contributions to the legal profession and the community, including the 2017 Hon. William C. Conner Inn of Court Excellence Award and the 2016 Leadership Award from the Cervantes Society of the New York State Courts.

The *Learning from the Masters Series* is presented with gratitude to Arlene and Benedict Morelli for their generous support of Cardozo School of Law and the advancement of its professional skills programs. Benedict Morelli is the founder of the Morelli Law Firm and former president of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association.

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