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MANA Congratulates Elizabeth A. Montoya on Appointment as OPM Chief of Staff

MANA, A National Latina Organization, with headquarters in Washington, DC, twenty-five Chapters and six affiliates across the nation, congratulates President Barack Obama and OPM Director John Berry for appointing Elizabeth (Liz) A. Montoya, a long-time MANA member and the first manager of its nationally recognized HERMANITAS® Program to serve as the Chief of Staff for the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

Ms. Montoya has an extensive background in human resources management as well as federal government service. Her corporate experience includes work at Sealaska Corporation, Resource Consultants, Inc., and the Los Alamos Alliance. She has also notably served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for the U.S. Department of Energy, Associate Deputy Administrator with the Small Business Administration and as the Associate Director of Presidential Personnel and Special Assistant to the President at the White House.

“Elizabeth Montoya’s appointment as Chief of Staff at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management is clearly a testament to her professional capabilities, and an important signal from the President that Hispanic representation in government service is a priority and will be given substantive consideration. Hispanics historically and consistently have been the only underrepresented minority group in federal government,” said President and CEO, Alma Morales Riojas, “I have the utmost confidence that Elizabeth Montoya is the right choice for OPM and have great expectations that she will do an excellent job for President Obama, the Federal government and will help break the pattern of exclusion of Hispanics in government. We look forward to working with her and being of support as she tackles this very important role.”

MANA President and CEO, Alma Morales Riojas, the Secretary/Treasurer of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda (NHLA), which consists of 26 key national and regional organizations representing Hispanics, has been working with coalition members and the White House Office of Presidential Personnel to help identify key Latinas qualified and ready to serve in the Obama-Biden Administration.

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About MANA: MANA, A National Latina Organization, is a nonprofit advocacy organization headquartered in Washington, DC. With chapters across the country, it is the oldest national Latina membership organization in the United States. MANA, whose mission is to empower Latinas through leadership development, community service and advocacy, envisions a national community of informed Latina activists working to improve the quality of life for all Hispanics. MANA also has the only national Latina mentoring program for girls 11-18, *HERMANITAS*®, which brings over 100 girls each year to a Washington, DC, Latina leadership institute that includes educational activities at the White House, on Capitol Hill, and at the Pentagon.