

Blanca Serves as Business Liaison on Access to Justice

By Carla Vianna June 30, 2017



Tere Blanca.

For the next three years <u>Tere Blanca</u> will lead discussions with Florida's business community on how to make the justice system more accessible for low- to moderate-income residents struggling with legal burdens.

The president and CEO of Blanca Commercial Real Estate in Miami <u>has been</u> <u>appointed</u> to the <u>Florida Commission on Access to Civil Justice</u>, which focuses on addressing the civil legal needs of disadvantaged Floridians. She will also

serve on the Council of Business Partners, advising the 21-member commission from a business perspective.

Blanca will serve as liaison between the commission and the council, which includes other business executives from industries across Florida.

"It's an important cause that can have a major impact on some of the most vulnerable people in our community," she said.

Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice Jorge Labarga created the commission in 2014 to find ways to reduce inefficiencies and costs associated with civil litigation. He believes including business leaders in the conversation is key.

The business council will work closely with Florida Bar past president and commission member Gregory Coleman. The Critton Luttier Coleman partner in West Palm Beach also serves as chairman of the executive committee.

Blanca, who previously served on Miami-Dade County's Beacon Council, said her real estate company has a long history of giving back to the South Florida community. In her new role as liaison between the two groups, Blanca will identify innovative ways for businesses to promote better access to justice, and she'll work alongside attorneys on the commission to help bridge that gap.

"Employers, too, have a stake in this," <u>Labarga said in a news release</u>.

"Employees who have challenges accessing justice have higher absenteeism and reduced productivity. It is in all our interests to address access to justice."

Members of the business council include representatives from Universal Parks & Resorts, life insurance company FBMC Benefits Management Inc., food distributor Cheney Brothers Inc. and First Southern Bank.