



## **2018 Community Leader Government Award**



**Crystal Rodríguez, Esq.**

As the vibrant Chief Diversity Officer for the City of Buffalo, Crystal works to ensure that all citizens have access to needed services and an equitable stake in the way our city functions. Prior to this, she served as the Executive Director of the City's Commission on Citizen's Rights & Community Relations, where she improved relationships between residents and city departments.

Crystal is an educator, mentor, volunteer, and a guiding force behind the policies, practices, and procedures of our city. Among her many accomplishments, she helped Mayor Brown craft Buffalo's Opportunity Pledge, improved Minority and Women owned business policies, and was a local coordinator of NYS's Anti-Poverty initiative. She has served as adjunct professor at both ECC and UB, and is Co-Founder of the Law Clerk for a Day program through the Minority Bar Association. Crystal is a Mentor with the WNY Coalition of Multicultural Offices of Higher Education, and is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and the Puerto Rican & Hispanic Day Parade Association. She established the first City of Buffalo Women's History Month Celebration and participates in the Racial Equity Roundtable.

For her commitment to creating inclusion and to ensuring that our government is truly for the people of this city, the NFJC is proud to present Crystal Rodríguez, Esq. with the 2018 Community Leader Award in Government.



*"...a just community begins with me!"*

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