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Texas Office of the Attorney General Names State Office Child Support Employee Assistant Attorney General of the Year

Jose Almaraz singled out as region's top attorney for dedication to Texas children

Austin – The Office of the Attorney General recognized Jose Almaraz, an Assistant Attorney General (AAG) in the Child Support Division's State Office in Austin, for his commitment to Texas children. Almaraz was named Assistant Attorney General of the Year for the Child Support Division's State Office. He was presented with the award on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at the Statewide Assistant Attorneys General Conference.

"I am honored to commend Jose for his unwavering commitment and tireless efforts in support of Texas children and families," Angela Colmenero, Provisional Attorney General said. "His approach exemplifies the best of public service and is an inspiration to us all. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Jose for selflessly answering the call to serve the people of Texas."

One Assistant Attorney General was selected for this honor from each of the state's ten child support field regions, along with an Assistant Attorney General from the Child Support Division State Office in Austin. Honorees are chosen based upon recommendations from their peers and supervisors, with a particular focus on employees who are willing to go beyond their normal duties to serve Texas children. Each recipient demonstrates a desire to serve Texas families, help their colleagues and enhance the Attorney General's Child Support Division.

Almaraz, who joined the Office of the Attorney General in 2015, represents the State of Texas in legal actions to establish paternity between children of unmarried parents and their biological fathers. He also works to establish, enforce and modify court orders that require parents to provide child support, medical support and dental support.

A graduate of the University of Miami School of Law, Almaraz was chosen to be the region's Assistant Attorney General of the Year for being an exemplary attorney, willing trainer and a strong leader. He has demonstrated the willingness to take on any task and provide wise legal direction to his co-workers. He has earned the reputation as a reliable leader.

"The Office of the Attorney General is fortunate that Jose is on our team. He routinely resolves novel and complex legal issues facing the Child Support Division. He proactively seeks these opportunities to assist the agency and always finds a way to build strong relationships in even the most challenging situations," said Matt Block, Division Chief of the Child Support Division's Legal Services. The Attorney General's Child Support Division offers an array of services to help families, including locating absent parents; establishing paternity for children born to unmarried parents; establishing, enforcing and modifying child and medical support orders; and collecting and distributing child support payments.

For more information about the Office of the Attorney General and the child support services it offers, call (800) 252-8014 or visit the agency's website at <u>www.texasattorneygeneral.gov</u>.

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