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## Gray Reed & McGraw Attorney Sofia Adrogué Co-Presents Houston Youth Leadership Forum

September 12, 2013

Gray Reed & McGraw attorney Sofia Adrogué and Caroline Baker Hurley (295<sup>th</sup> Judicial Court, Harris County), Co-Founders & Co-Chairs, present once again their Youth Leadership Forum for Houston's youth at Rice University from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on September 20. The motto is "Engage, Educate & Empower—By Service We Lead."

The annual one-day event for high school students draws 300 of Houston's aspiring leaders from a cross-section of Houston schools including Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory School of Houston, Chinquapin College Preparatory School, AAMA's George I. Sanchez Charter High School, Hall High School, Project GRAD, YES Preparatory Public Schools as well as St. John's School, among others. Past participants include students from Aspiring Youth, CCISD Schools, HISD Schools, and The Kinkaid School.

The Leadership Forum offers area youth a critical opportunity to gain a litany of valuable lessons:

1. insight from emerging and established leaders in our community,
2. knowledge about our local and national government;
3. an understanding of how community organizations are shaping futures; and
4. the realization that with education and hard work, our youth can accomplish their dreams.

This year's program allows students to interact with elected officials, business professionals and community leaders to discuss leadership, success and life. Notable participants this year include: The Honorable Eva Guzman, Hon. Sylvester Turner, Marlen Esparza, Baby Jay, and Jean Lopez.

"Sofia Adrogué and I envisioned this forum as a unique opportunity for students to learn about civics and about how they can become servant leaders in their schools and communities even at a young age," Baker stated.

Adrogué noted, "I am honored to have cofounded this event over ten years ago. We are elated and most appreciative of these formidable participants as they epitomize leadership with a moral compass. They provide unique insights from their many years in the arena of public service."



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