

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Eric Friedman <u>efriedman@nycbar.org</u>

> Eli Cohen ecohen@nycbar.org

City Bar Launches Four-Part Series and Conference to Mobilize Stakeholders Following Affirmative Action Ruling

New York, July 6, 2023 – In the wake of the Supreme Court's decision ending race-based affirmative action at colleges and universities, the New York City Bar Association is providing actionable steps for stakeholders to foster a more diverse, equitable and inclusive legal profession.

The City Bar's Office for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging, along with The Pipeline Crisis/Winning Strategies Initiative and the City Bar's DEI Committee, is hosting a four-part series culminating in an all-day conference where participants will have the opportunity to sign an industry-wide pledge to support pipeline programming.

The first in the series – "<u>Overruling Grutter: What Does Ending Affirmative Action Mean for</u> <u>Voluntary DEI Workplace</u>" – was a virtual event that explored the future of voluntary DEI across sectors. <u>Click here to watch for free.</u>

The next installment in this series, "<u>Overruling Grutter: What Does the Supreme Court's</u> <u>Opinion on Affirmative Action Mean for Diversity Initiatives & the Pipeline to Law Firms</u> <u>& Financial Institutions?</u>", at the City Bar on Thursday, July 13 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., will analyze the Supreme Court's affirmative action decision, lessons learned from rulings in California and Michigan, and the anticipated impacts on the pipeline.

Following these panels, a steering committee will come together in September to draft a "Commitment to the Pipeline" pledge.

Finally, in October, stakeholders will be invited to an in-person, day-long conference in which they will have the opportunity to learn how to establish their own pipeline and retention programs, connect with pipeline partners, and deepen their commitment to building, supporting and retaining an equitable and inclusive pipeline. For more information about the current state of the legal pipeline, read these City Bar reports, which contain extensive findings that inform the goals of the Overruling Grutter Series:

- <u>The Diversity Gap: Black and Latinx Representation Disparities in the Legal Pipeline</u>
- <u>Sealing the Leaks: Recommendations to Diversify and Strengthen the Pipeline to the Legal Profession</u>

Tanya Martinez-Gallinucci, Executive Director of the City Bar Office for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging as well as organizer of the Overruling Grutter Series, is available for comment upon request.

About the Association

The mission of the New York City Bar Association, which was founded in 1870 and has over 23,000 members, is to equip and mobilize a diverse legal profession to practice with excellence, promote reform of the law, and uphold the rule of law and access to justice in support of a fair society and the public interest in our community, our nation, and throughout the world. <u>www.nycbar.org</u>