

Atlanta, GA., September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Consul General Javier Díaz de León's first visit to Nashville, TN**

The Consul General of Mexico in Atlanta, Javier Díaz de León carried out his first visit to Nashville, Tennessee on September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, after beginning his work as head of this Consulate General in June 2016.

The general objective of this visit was to create closer ties and strengthen the ones existing between this Consulate General with Tennessee's authorities and organizations, as well as underline the importance of the Mexican community for Tennessee, its contribution to this state and its binational identity.

Throughout the Consul General's visit, eleven activities took place:

- Appointment with both, Bill Haslam, Governor of Tennessee, to whom the Consul remitted a letter of invitation to México and Randy Boyd, Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development.
- Visit with Megan Barry, Mayor of Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County.
- Interview with Chief Deputy of Davidson County Sheriff's Office, John Ford.
- Dialogue with Ms. Bonnie Hommrich, Commissioner of Tennessee's Department of Children's Services (DCS) about collaboration in cases where Mexican children are under Custody of DCS.
- Meeting with Sara L. Smith, Director of the Nashville Area Office of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).
- Dialogue with Ralph Schulz, President and CEO of Nashville Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (NAHCC) and Yuri Cunza, President and CEO of the Nashville Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce about the importance of the immigrant Latin community in Nashville's economy and about the message of inclusion and acceptance to diversity that Nashville as a city has sent.
- Meeting with Dr. Jewell Winn, Executive Director for International Programs and Deputy Chief Diversity Officer of Tennessee State University and with Dr. Edward Fischer Director of the Center for Latin American Studies at Vanderbilt University, to explore opportunities of collaboration in educational matters.
- Meeting with communitarian and business leaders in Tennessee.
- Meeting with Mayra Yu, Director of the House of the Latin-American culture "Casa de la Cultura Latinoamericana", during which the Consul General delivered two book collections to the Plaza Comunitaria "Dr. Terry Horgan".
- Meeting with Leticia Alvarez, and Stephanie Teatro, Executive Codirector and Director of Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIIRC).
- Press conference to present results.