



## **Juan Cartagena**

Juan Cartagena is a constitutional law and civil rights attorney with extensive litigation experience in the areas of voting rights, education, employment discrimination, and language rights.

Juan is a former Municipal Court Judge in the city of Hoboken, New Jersey and has litigated in various states including New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Immediately prior to joining LatinoJustice PRLDEF, he served as General Counsel and Vice President for Advocacy at the Community Service Society where he supervised public interest law attorneys and a staff of policy experts who conduct strategic research and policy analysis on issues of labor market participation, affordable housing, youth policy and mass imprisonment and reentry.

From 1990 to 1991 he worked at the government of Puerto Rico's Department of Puerto Rican Community Affairs in the United States where he served as Legal Director. Previously, he was Associate Counsel at the Community Service Society and before that he worked as a Staff Attorney at what was then known as the Puerto Rican Legal Defense & Education Fund.

Juan has taught several college courses and presently teaches a Latino civil rights law course for undergraduate students at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He has also written in the areas of Latinos and mass imprisonment, language rights, redistricting, civil procedure and issues surrounding the New York City charter.

He has served on numerous boards of community based organizations and government task forces in New York and New Jersey including most recently, Governor Paterson's Task Force on Transforming New York State's Juvenile Justice System and Governor Corzine's Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy.

His current research interests include the effects of mass imprisonment on Latino, and particularly Puerto Rican, communities, unlawful trespass arrests as an element of the NYPD's stop and frisk practices, and employment discrimination issues affecting persons with previous criminal histories.