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## Robinson+Cole Lawyer Finalist for American Bar Association Outstanding Young Lawyer Award

*Land use lawyer Sorell E. Negro was one of two second place recipients of this national honor presented by the ABA Young Lawyers Division*

MIAMI, FL (March 8, 2016) – [Sorell E. Negro](#), a land use, real property, and environmental litigation associate in Robinson+Cole's Miami office, was one of two second-place finalists for the National Outstanding Young Lawyer Award presented by the American Bar Association (ABA). Ms. Negro was honored at an awards reception at the American Bar Association's Midyear Meeting in San Diego, California, on February 6, 2016.

The National Outstanding Young Lawyer Award recognizes an ABA young lawyer in good standing who exhibits professional excellence; service to the profession and the bar; service to the community; and a reputation for, or the advancement of, legal ethics and professional responsibility. This national award is given to one young lawyer annually, and two finalists were also named this year.

Young lawyers may be nominated by an organization affiliated with the ABA Young Lawyers Division; a state or local bar association; the YLD Executive Board; any ABA section, division, commission, committee, or forum; or the Board of the Fellows of the YLD. Ms. Negro was nominated by the ABA Section of State and Local Government Law for this award. She has served as the section's continuing legal education coordinator since 2014, served as its Young Lawyers Division liaison for 2013-2014, and in 2013 co-founded its Young Lawyers Committee, which she co-chaired for the past two years.

"The Section of State and Local Government Law was pleased and honored to nominate Sorell for the Young Lawyers Division's National Outstanding Young Lawyer Award. She is an asset to our section and we are proud of her accomplishments within our section, within the YLD, and within the ABA at large," said Donna Frazier, chair of the ABA Section of State and Local Government Law.

"Sorell is a rising star and has impressive accomplishments in her legal practice and in her commitments to the legal profession, legal scholarship, and community," said Dwight H. Merriam, a partner at Robinson+Cole and the founder

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of the firm's Land Use Group. "The firm opened an office in Miami, Florida, at the end of 2014, and Sorell has been instrumental in helping the new office get off the ground and mentoring our new associate in that office."

Working in land use, real property, and environmental litigation at Robinson+Cole, a firm with a national practice in these areas, has afforded Ms. Negro a platform on which to grow her practice, and she has seized every opportunity. Not only did she prove herself within and outside the firm from the beginning as a dedicated and responsive lawyer who cares about her clients and consistently delivers high-quality work, she has also become a go-to lawyer for state, federal, and international litigation matters involving real property and environmental issues, from commercial lease disputes and land use appeals to class actions, takings, Fair Housing Act cases, public health claims, and actions arising under state and federal environmental laws, including CERCLA.

"Sorell is one of the most dedicated and hardworking lawyers that I have ever met. She excels in the practice of law and is building a national practice," said Jeffrey J. White, chair of Robinson+Cole's Manufacturing Industry Group. "She also shows laudable initiative, seizing opportunities wherever she sees them. She has quickly made a name for herself with the ABA, taking on leadership roles and even creating new committees and service projects. One of the hallmarks of a truly outstanding young bar leader is that he or she can earn the confidence of more senior leaders and thrive. Sorell has done that at every stage, as reflected by the numerous national awards she has earned."

After law school and before joining Robinson+Cole, Ms. Negro clerked for U.S. District Judge Fernando M. Olguin in the Central District of California, a fast-paced and dynamic district and the largest federal district court by geographic area in the country.

## **About Robinson+Cole**

Robinson+Cole is a service mark of Robinson & Cole LLP, an Am Law 200 firm with nine offices serving regional, national, and international clients, from start-ups to Fortune 500 companies. Since 1845, Robinson & Cole LLP has expanded to meet the changing needs of clients. The firm represents corporate, governmental, and nonprofit entities, as well as individual clients, in a wide range of matters, including corporate; business and insurance litigation; tax and tax-exempt; finance; public finance; land use, environmental and utilities, and real estate; health law; labor, employment, and benefits; intellectual property and technology; data privacy and security; and government relations. For more information, please visit [www.rc.com](http://www.rc.com).

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