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**The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro STL Hosts Administrator to U.S. Small Business Administration, Maria Contreras-Sweet, and Announces their 2015 Adelante Award Recipients**

May 4, 2015 (St. Louis) – U.S. Small Business Administration Administrator, Maria Contreras-Sweet as well as eight St. Louis community business leaders, and companies were recognized by The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan St. Louis on May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Annual Adelante Awards dinner at the DoubleTree by Hilton.

“The Adelante Awards are a way to celebrate and recognize the achievements of individuals, entrepreneurs, and corporations in the metro St. Louis Area. The awards focus on individuals who have contributed to the betterment of not only the Hispanic community, but the St. Louis Community at large. We were honored to recognize Maria-Contreras Sweet and local community leaders at this event” said Karlos Ramirez, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Executive Director.

Award winners were:

Civic Award of the Year – [Casa de Salud](#)

Hispanic Emerging Business of the Year – [Listo](#)

Hispanic Company of the Year – [Steve Martinez, State Farm Agency](#)

Hispanic Businessperson of the Year – [Anthony Gonzalez-Angel](#) (ret) Gonzalez Companies

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Member of the Year – [Emma Espinoza](#), (ret) AT&T

Hispanic Business Advocate of the Year – [Monsanto](#)

Hispanic Lifetime Achievement Award – Maria Guadalupe-Taxman (ret) CEO, Chesterfield Trading Ltd

2015 Hispanic Chamber President's Recognition – [Margarita Flores, VP Community Affairs at Anheuser-Busch, Inc.](#)

Incorporated on April 28, 1982, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan St. Louis strives to promote the economic development of Hispanic-owned businesses and improve business opportunities for all in the St. Louis region. The Chamber fulfills this mission by increasing the competitiveness of its member businesses in local, state and international markets. The Chamber is the cornerstone for the Hispanic business community, and looks to participate in present and future business developments of metropolitan St. Louis. For more information, visit [www.hccstl.com](http://www.hccstl.com).

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