



**GLORIA TRISTANI**  
Of Counsel

**SPIEGEL & MCDIARMID LLP**  
1333 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Direct: 202.879.4045  
Telephone: 202.879.4000  
Fax: 202.393.2866  
gloria.tristani@spiegelmc.com

**EDUCATION:** **University of New Mexico School of Law, JD, 1990**  
Albuquerque, NM

**Barnard College, Columbia University, BA, 1987**  
New York, NY

**John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Program**  
for Senior Executives in State and Local Government, 1996  
Cambridge, MA

**BAR ADMISSIONS:** District of Columbia

Colorado

New Mexico

US Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit

**WORK EXPERIENCE:** Ms. Tristani, a former Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Commissioner (1997-2001), previously served as the president of the Benton Foundation, where she oversaw the foundation's work in educating policy-makers, academics and activists about their stakes in communications policy. Among her accomplishments as an FCC Commissioner, Ms. Tristani worked to accelerate broadband deployment to rural and other underserved areas; was an advocate for the "E-Rate" program, which provides discounted Internet access to schools and libraries; and served as Chair of the FCC's V-Chip Task Force.

Ms. Tristani has also served as the Managing Director of the Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ, where she advocated for, among other things, a diversity of ownership and viewpoints, meaningful public interest obligations, and enhanced children's educational programming.

In addition to her federal regulatory commission experience with the FCC, Ms. Tristani also has experience working with state-level regulatory commissions. She served for several years on the New Mexico State Corporation Commission, the first woman elected to that commission and its Chair in 1996. From 1983-1987, Ms. Tristani worked as an Assistant for US Senator Jeff Bingaman (D, NM).

Ms. Tristani was born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico, with Spanish as her first language.

**PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT:** Benton Foundation, Washington, D.C.  
President, April 2006 – December 2006  
Office of Communication, Inc., United Church of Christ, Washington, D.C.  
Managing Director, March 2004 – March 2006  
Consultant on Media and Telecommunications Issues  
March 2003 – March 2004  
Democratic candidate for the US Senate, New Mexico  
December 2001 – November 2002  
Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C.  
Commissioner, November 1997 – September 2001  
New Mexico State Corporation Commission  
Commissioner, 1995 – 1997  
Commission Chair, 1996  
Keleher & McLeod, Albuquerque, NM  
Associate, September 1990 – December 1994  
US Senator Jeff Bingaman (D, NM)  
Assistant, January 1983 – July 1987

**SELECTED PRESENTATIONS  
AND INTERVIEWS:**

Observatorio Fucatel, How to Guarantee a Diverse and Pluralistic Television, Santiago, Chile, October 29, 2009.  
American Academy of Pediatrics, Annual Convention, Where the Rubber Meets the Road: Children, Media, and the First Amendment, Washington, D.C., October 18, 2009.  
World Association of Community Radio (AMARC), Workshop and Roundtable on Regulatory Licensing Standards, Mexico City, Mexico, September 10, 2009.  
National Association of Hispanic Journalists (NAHJ) Annual Convention, Media Policy as a Latino Civil Rights Issue, San Juan, PR, June 6, 2009.  
Alliance for Community Media (ACM) Conference, Congressional & FCC Update on PEG Issues, Congressional & FCC Update on Media Reform, Burlington, VT, May 21, 2009.  
Ministry on Education and Culture, Forum on Cultural Contents and Communications, The U.S. Experience, Montevideo, Uruguay, April 22, 2009.  
United States Hispanic Leadership Institute, Annual Conference, Forum on the Consequences of Hate Speech in the Media, Chicago, IL, March 20, 2009.  
Congressional Cities Conference, National League of Cities, ITC Committee, Telecommunications and the New Administration, Washington, D.C., March 15, 2009.  
Lectures on the Federal Communications Commission and Children's Media Policy, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, December 3, 2008.

Pike & Fisher Webinar, A New Era Begins: What the Election Means for the Communications Industry, Washington, D.C., November 24, 2008.

New Jersey State League of Municipalities Annual Conference – The Effect of Statewide Franchising Panel, Atlantic City, NJ, November 20, 2008.

ACM Annual Conference – Panelist at Keynote Plenary Lunch, Washington, D.C., July 12, 2008.

Radio Ink’s Hispanic Radio Conference, Legal Lowdown Panel, Miami, FL, May 20, 2008.

National Lieutenant Governor’s Association, Winter Meeting, Broadband and Rural Access, Washington, D.C., March 13, 2008.

ACM Central States Conference. "The Media Landscape as Colored by the FCC," and "Public Policy Update Panel," Fort Wayne, IN, November 9, 2007.

National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors’ (NATOA) 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. “Maximizing Your Ability to Protect Consumers,” Portland, OR, October 3, 2007.

ACM Conference. Keynote, “It’s About Access, Access, Access,” Minneapolis, MN, July 26, 2007.

American Library Association Annual Conference. "State Telecommunications Policy Workshop," Washington, D.C., June 21, 2007.

ACM Mid-Atlantic Region Conference. Keynote Speaker and “Ask the Lawyers” panel, Edison, NJ, June 9, 2007.

C-SPAN, "The Communicators." Discussed the recent Second Circuit Court of Appeals decision on "fleeting expletives," as well as indecency and violence in the media, June 2007.

"MEDIA: Overseas Conversations (IV)" conference. Participated in an international panel, "International Perspectives on Government Policies and Youth Media," which discussed how government policies impact youth media around the world; New York City, NY, May 2007.

Center for American Progress program, *Prologue to a Farce: Communication and Democracy in America*. Discussion topics included media and telecommunications policy and its impact on civic engagement and community, as well as the media's effect on children and minorities; Washington, D.C., May 2007.

National League of Cities, "Summit on Media Violence and Its Impact on Children." Keynote luncheon speaker, Indianapolis, IN, April 2007.

Cambridge Community Television and Somerville Community Access Television. Appeared on a series called "Critical Focus," episode "Race and the Media;" MA, April 2007.

National League of Cities, Congressional City Conference. "Municipal Broadband 2007: Filling in the Gaps," Washington, D.C., March 12, 2007.

Friel Lecture. Washington State University, Edward R. Murrow College of Communication, Pullman, WA, 2005.

Alliance for Media Literacy Association. Keynote speaker, San Francisco, CA, 2005.

National Congress of American Indians. Washington, D.C., 2001.

Central American and Caribbean Forum on Universal Service. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 2001.

Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. Washington, D.C., 2000.

Association of Public Safety Communications Officials International (APCO) Annual Conference. Keynote speaker, Boston, MA, 2000.

Annenberg Public Policy Center's Annual Conference on Children and Media. Keynote speaker, Washington, D.C., 2000.

Media Violence Conference. Emory University, Atlanta, GA, 2000.

Expo Comm Argentina. Keynote speaker, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1999.

United States Information Agency. Nicaragua, 1996.

**MEMBERSHIPS:** Member, FCC Consumer Advisory Committee

Board Member, Children Now

Board Member, Minority Media and Television Council

Member, Hispanic National Bar Association

**AWARDS:** Hispanic Women's Council (HWC), Primera Award, 2008

Hall of Fame, Minority Media and Television Council, 2002

Ruben Salazar Communications Award, National Council of La Raza, 2001

Edward R. Roybal Outstanding Public Service Award, National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO), 2000

Presidential Award, Association of Public Safety Communications Officials International (APCO), 2000 and 1998

*Hispanic Business*' "100 Influential Hispanics," 1998 and 1996

Governor's Outstanding New Mexico Women, 1996

First Woman Elected to the New Mexico State Corporation Commission, 1994