MAYOR BALLARD APPOINTS LATINO ADVISORY COUNCIL

INDIANAPOLIS – (August 13, 2008) Mayor Greg Ballard today joined members of his Cabinet and others from the community to announce the newly appointed members of the Latino Advisory Council.

The Council, which was established in June by Mayor Ballard through an Executive Order, will focus on Latino issues in relation to public safety, economic development and education.

“Indianapolis is a city that prides itself on our cultural diversity, and as we work to increase our international presence both here and abroad, we must empower our citizens and encourage all to become active members of the community,” Ballard said. “The Latino community significantly and positively impacts the city’s businesses and social fabric, yet there exists a distinct opportunity to improve the Latino community’s position in our city,”

Mayor Ballard said he signed the order because he sees the potential for the Council to play a major role in nurturing the positive influence the Latino community has had on Indianapolis.

The purpose of the Council is to provide advice and support for the city’s Hispanic/Latino community. By working closely with the Mayor’s Director of International & Cultural Affairs, Council members will be able to significantly impact the role that Latinos play in making Indianapolis a safer, more economically secure city.

According to Carolin Requiz Smith, the Mayor’s Director of International & Cultural Affairs, public safety issues will be the primary focus of the newly formed council.

“We are committed to Mayor Ballard’s vision of making public safety the number one priority of the city,” she said. “For this reason we are making public safety the Council’s first order of business, and we will develop a plan to address public safety, education, and economic development issues specific to the Latino community.”

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Mayor’s Latino Advisory Council:

Charlie Garcia, Chairman of Greater Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce
Angel Rivera, Consultants Consortium, Inc.
Susan Sutton, Associate Vice Chancellor of International Affairs, IUPUI
Nelson Silva, Home School Advisor, Indianapolis Public Schools
John Broyles, Broyles Kight & Ricafort, LLP
Scott Newman, Director of Public Safety, City of Indianapolis
Elia Irene James, Marion Superior Court Probation Department
Carl Brizzi, Marion County Prosecutor
Alfredo Lopez, MD, Alivio Clinic
Carolin Requiz Smith, Director of International and Cultural Affairs, City of Indianapolis

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