

NEWS

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Former SEC Commissioner Luis Aguilar, Frankel Prize honoree, praised for his courage, insistence on always ‘Looking out for investors’

This year the Institute Frankel Fiduciary Prize program capped our month in a closing panel to recognize former SEC Commissioner Luis Aguilar. Quotes from SEC Commissioners and professors Tamar Frankel and John C Coffee regarding Luis A. Aguilar. The webinar can be linked to [Webinar Link](#) and their remarks start at about 1:07:00.

“It is my great honor for the Institute for the Fiduciary Standard to offer Luis A. Aguilar the Frankel Fiduciary Prize. [...] He demonstrates that the most powerful people and institutions including those holding office need reliance on unwavering trustworthiness. [This] is a basis for life all over the globe, thank you Commissioner Aguilar for your Fiduciary leadership.”

Tamar Frankel, Professor of Law Emerita, Boston University

“[Aguilar] has consistently been ahead of the curve and ahead of his time. He advanced ideas and proposals that were new and novel when he first championed them [are now] part of the mainstream... [Aguilar] served during a period that was probably the most exhaustive, even harrowing period during the history of the SEC... Commissioner Aguilar has championed causes and issues that have become even more important over time [...] he has shown, vision, leadership and firm commitment, and he justly deserves the Frankel award.”

John C. Coffee, Professor of Law, Columbia Law School

“I am especially pleased Luis has been chosen for this honor and I couldn’t think of a more wonderful and appropriate person to give this award to. [...] [His] experiences infused everything that Luis did at the commission and his practical grounding made him quite persuasive. [...] Early in his speeches he articulated that every decision he would make as a commissioner he would do through the lens of everyday investors. [...] He made it clear to everyone inside and outside the commission that was the job of the commission, to look out for investors. [...] From my perspective, Luis as a commissioner epitomized what it meant to be a Fiduciary.”

Kara Stein, SEC Commissioner, 2013-2019

“You know what else sets him apart [...] it’s his dogged hands on, unpretentious and unrelenting approach to policymaking. He has a genuine devotion to principles of fair play and that is a thread that runs through every single cause that he champions. He is willing to take a stand even when it’s uncomfortable or unpopular or sometimes even coming at his own expense. [...] His goal was always the same, it was to get the best possible outcome for investors, for capital markets, and for our economy. He is a rare treasure, having spent a career placing that goal above all else. I cannot think of a more deserving recipient for this award.”

Allison Lee, SEC commissioner, 2019-Present