
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

June 13, 2006

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Venezuela's U.S. Ambassador To Meet City Officials, Will Discuss Possible Business & Cultural Ties Thursday

Ald. Mike McGee, Jr. Pleased Ambassador Accepted His Invitation; Possible New Sister City Relationship in the Mix

Mr. Bernardo Alvarez Herrera, Venezuelan Ambassador to the United States, will be welcomed to Milwaukee during a special information sharing session and reception on Thursday, June 15, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. in room 301-B of City Hall, 200 E. Wells St. The information sharing session will begin at 1:30 p.m., and a brief reception afterward will be hosted by Ald. Mike McGee, Jr.

Some of the discussion Thursday will touch on a possible Sister City relationship between Milwaukee and Carora, Venezuela. In fact, the Mayor of Carora, Julio Chavez, and Luis Reyes Reyes, governor of the Venezuelan state of Lara, are expected to join Ambassador Alvarez during his visit. Mayor Tom Barrett, several members of the Common Council and other Milwaukee business and community leaders are expected to attend the events, Ald. McGee said.

Currently, Ambassador Alvarez is implementing Venezuela's initiative to provide heating oil assistance to needy families in the United States. Prior to his 2003 appointment as the Ambassador to the United States, Mr. Alvarez-Herrera served as a vice minister and director-general in the Ministry of Energy and Mines, a member of the Venezuelan Congress from Miranda State, the executive secretary and representative of Venezuela to the Forum on Debt and Development, the chief of the Research and Development Division for the Venezuelan Institute of Foreign Trade, and as a professor at the Universidad Central de Venezuela. Currently he serves as the Venezuelan representative to the Energy Council of the United States of America

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