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WASHINGTON, DC – Recently, America’s oldest and largest national association of predominantly African American attorneys and judges honored one of its own, U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr., the first African American ever to serve as the nation’s Attorney General.

On September 23rd, to appropriately launch the annual Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Legislative Conference in Washington, DC, the National Bar Association (NBA), along with Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., sponsored a reception at the Renaissance Washington Hotel. Highlighting the reception was a presentation of the NBA Presidential Award of Merit for Equal Justice to U.S. Attorney General Holder by NBA President, Mavis T. Thompson.

In addition, the thirteen founders of the Congressional Black Caucus were honored by the NBA with the organization’s Presidential Award of Merit for Excellence in Politics and the Legal Profession.

“Attorney General Holder, the first African American to hold the position of U.S. Attorney General, reflects the promise of those who inaugurated the Congressional Black Caucus and its ideals,” said NBA President Thompson. “As our nation’s top lawyer, he has demonstrated the value of diversity and equal opportunity.”

Founded in 1925, the National Bar Association (NBA) is the nation’s oldest and largest national network of predominantly African American attorneys and judges. The NBA represents approximately 44,000 lawyers, judges, law professors and law students and has over 80 affiliate chapters throughout the United States and around the world. The organization seeks to advance the science of jurisprudence, preserve the independence of the judiciary and to uphold the honor and integrity of the legal profession.