

Carl Martin Ruiz

Mr. Carl-Martin Ruiz serves as the Director of the Office of Adjudication, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (OASCR) at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), in Washington, DC. He has been a member of the Career Senior Executive Service since June 2007, and was appointed the Director of Adjudication in October 2009. In this position he is responsible for the intake, investigation, and adjudication divisions of both employment and program complaints for all of USDA.

From June 2007 to October 2009, Mr. Ruiz worked as the Director of Outreach and Diversity with OASCR, where he provided leadership, oversight and evaluation for USDA's outreach and land-grant institution educational efforts. He was also responsible for managing the Department's Diversity Program and in building the platform for the USDA's highly successful workplace diversity and inclusion initiatives.

From October 2010 to September 2011, Mr. Ruiz served a detail assignment as Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Outreach, Employee Education and Training, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, Washington, DC. During this period, he led numerous food safety outreach efforts, agency mission-critical and science-based food safety training, as well as organizational and employee development training.

He also served as Special Advisor to the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights during the Presidential transition, where he was instrumental in guiding the new Administration in their implementation of the 2008 Farm Bill and USDA's outreach initiatives. His efforts effectively reached Tribal Nations, national advocacy groups, socially disadvantaged and limited resource farmers and ranchers, small and beginning farmers and ranchers, farmworkers, community and faith-based organizations, land-grant institutions, and other stakeholders.

Prior to his work with the USDA, Mr. Ruiz was the Civil Rights Director with the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Federal Railroad Administration, where he was responsible for implementing the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, affecting recipients of federally assisted and federally conducted programs, such as Amtrak, and Environmental Justice efforts impacting low income and minority-based communities and Tribal Nations. He coordinated the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and helped design and advance DOT's successful rail initiatives on accessibility and reasonable accommodations for the disabled and elderly.

In addition, he was responsible for implementing all provisions of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, affecting equal opportunity, employment discrimination, affirmative employment, and alternative dispute resolution. He also managed the agency's diversity and inclusion program and the minority serving institutions program.

Mr. Ruiz has held key positions with the U.S. Department of Army. He was Director of Equal Opportunity Programs (civilian and military) with the U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Belvoir, VA, and with the U.S. Army Engineer Center and Fort Leonard Wood, MO. Other positions with the U.S. Army include Alcohol and Drug Control Officer, Civilian Program Coordinator, and Professional Psychological Counselor. In his work with the U.S. Army he developed prototype initiatives in combat readiness. An Army veteran himself, Mr. Ruiz served honorably with the U.S. Army, elite 3/11 Armored Cavalry (Black Horse), Reconnaissance Squadron.

Mr. Ruiz is a graduate of Harvard University's Law School Program on Negotiations, Master in Negotiation's Course, and the Diplomacy and International Negotiations Course. He graduated from Boston University with a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology; Southern Christian University with an M.A. Degree in Philosophy, and Freed-Hardeman University with a B.S. Degree in Theology and Social Work. He is also a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute, Leadership for a Democratic Society Course, and the Army Management Staff College.

He was born in Piura, Peru, to Mario and Maria Ines Ruiz. He is the second youngest of ten children, and comes from a family with a rich military history. Mr. Ruiz is fluent in three international languages: English, Spanish and German.