



Adrian J. Polansky

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Adrian J. Polansky was appointed as state executive director of USDA's Farm Service Agency in Kansas by President Barack Obama in July 2009. He served in the same capacity from 1993 to 2001 under the Clinton Administration.

Polansky brings a lifetime of agriculture experience to USDA. He served as secretary of the Kansas Department of Agriculture from February 2003 to July 2009, and owns a 1,900-acre family farm and wholesale farm seed company, both in Belleville, Kansas.

As Secretary of Agriculture, Polansky served on the Kansas Energy Council, the Governor's Council on Homeland Security, and many other councils and boards. He also served as secretary-treasurer for the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture and chair of its biotechnology task force. He was president of Food Export – Midwest. He served on the USDA Advisory Committee on Biotechnology and 21st Century Agriculture.

Polansky is a lifelong Kansan who graduated from Kansas State University in 1972 with a Bachelor of Science degree in agronomy. He has received many honors and awards, including the Kansas State University 2006 College of Agriculture Distinguished Service Award. He received the 2007 BIO State Executive of the Year Award by the Biotechnology Industry Organization. He received the USDA Hammer Award, which recognized his efforts to build a government that works better and costs less; a USDA distinguished service award for outstanding leadership and management contributions made to the Farm Service Agency.

Polansky lives in Manhattan with his wife, Kristine, who is an attorney. A daughter, Amber, and her husband, Joe, are graduates of the University of Kansas pharmacy school. They own and operate City Pharmacy in Minneapolis, Kansas, where they live with their two sons. A son, Adam, is a 2002 graduate of Kansas State University who currently is involved in the family farm operation. He and his wife, Sara, have two sons. Benjamin Larscheid, Polansky's stepson, graduated from Ft. Hays State University in 2009 and is pursuing a career in graphic design.