



**Doug Caruso**  
Administrator  
Farm Service Agency  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C.

On April 22, 2009, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the appointment of Doug Caruso as Administrator of the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Caruso returns to USDA after working as chief executive officer for Wisconsin Farmers Union Specialty Cheese, a manufacturer of award-winning blue and Gorgonzola products, where he helped develop the company into a profitable operation with expanded market share.

From 1993 to 2001, Caruso served as State Executive Director (SED) at FSA Wisconsin, which serves approximately 100,000 farmers and rural landowners through a network of 56 county offices. From 1989 to 1993, he was State Director for U.S. Sen. Herb Kohl, D-Wis., and managed five state offices in providing constituent services, outreach, media relations and government relations. From 1986-89, Caruso was the Director of Government Affairs and Commodity Programs at the Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives where he served as chief lobbyist on agricultural legislative and regulatory matters. Prior to that position, he was the General Manager at Family Dairies USA and led the organization through a period of rapid and substantial growth with significant gains in both sales and membership.

Caruso also served as Communications Director at Family Dairies. While serving as Legislative Assistant to U.S. Rep Bob Kastenmeier, representing the second district of Wisconsin, he handled issues of agriculture, trade, transportation, commerce and budget policy.

During his tenure as an FSA SED in Wisconsin, he participated in multi-agency USDA initiatives and worked on implementation of dairy market loss assistance programs, predecessors to the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC), introduced in the 2002 Farm Bill. Caruso led his state in development of labor and client service practices that were adopted by other states and the national office. He implemented plans to instill a client service-driven culture, which contributed to the growth of one of the largest loan portfolios in the nation and reduced delinquencies to among the lowest. Caruso also engaged minority producers in the design and delivery of an employee training program that enhanced outreach to historically underserved farmers. In 2000, he was honored by FSA as Outstanding State Executive Director in the Clinton Administration for his exemplary leadership, superior management skills, and significant contributions to the agency at all levels.

About Administrator Caruso, Secretary Vilsack said, “Doug Caruso compiled an impressive record of improving client services and enhancing outreach to historically underserved farmers. He is the right choice to serve America’s farmers, ranchers, rural landowners and communities...”

Prior to his FSA leadership assignment, Caruso lived in Middleton, Wis., with his wife Judy, an information technology executive at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. They have two children: Anthony, an accountant, and Emily, a chemist.

The FSA administrator oversees and manages farm commodity, credit, conservation, disaster assistance and loan programs through a network of federal, state and county offices. These programs are designed to help producers manage their business risks and improve the stability and strength of the domestic agricultural economy.