



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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Oscar Gonzales

California State Office
3430 G St. #4161
Davis, CA 95616-4161
(530) 792-5537
(530) 792-5552 fax

Oscar Gonzales

Oscar Gonzales serves as the California State Executive Director of USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA). In this position he oversees federal farm program delivery across 58 counties.

Prior to joining FSA, Oscar served as Secretary Vilsack's Deputy Chief of Staff in Washington, D.C., where he helped oversee management initiatives and day-to-day operations of the Department. Oscar continues to serve as the Secretary's Senior Advisor on immigration reform. His other roles at USDA include serving as Deputy Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration.

Before joining USDA in June of 2009, Oscar worked for the United Farm Workers Foundation where he focused on policy matters related to immigration, water and agriculture. He also served as State Director at the National Hispanic Environmental Council.

Oscar's background in government involves work at state level where he served as a top staffer to former Governor Gray Davis, Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa, and Senate Majority Leader Gloria Romero. Prior to working in government, Oscar worked at the grass roots level for the Corporation for National Service, Building Up L.A., the L.A. Community College's Independent Living Program and the Constitutional Rights Foundation.

Oscar also worked for several years with thoroughbred race horses at local racetracks and farms across California. His father is a retired factory worker and his mother works as a store cashier.

Oscar is a graduate of UC San Diego, East L.A. College, and Rosemead High School.

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