



# BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

June 2013



**Judith A. Canales**  
**State Executive Director**  
**USDA – Farm Service Agency**  
College Station, Texas

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On June 3, 2013, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the appointment of Judith Canales as State Executive Director for the Texas Farm Service Agency (FSA).

As Executive Director for the Texas FSA, Canales oversees all aspects of federal farm program delivery for an agency that employs nearly 1400 people (state and county office staff and elected county committee members) and on average, issues more than \$1 billion annually in commodity, conservation, disaster and credit benefits to farmers and ranchers across the state.

Most recently, Canales served as Acting Deputy Under Secretary for USDA Rural Development. In 2009, President Barack Obama appointed Canales as Administrator for the Rural Business-Cooperative Service at USDA Rural Development.

Previously, Ms. Canales served as Executive Director of the Maverick County Development Corporation in Eagle Pass, Texas, and served for seven years as an adjunct faculty member for Southwest Texas Junior College.

In 1996, Former President Bill Clinton appointed Canales as Deputy State Director for Texas Rural Development. She worked as the Acting Associate Administrator for Rural Business and Cooperative Service in Washington, D.C. She served as the Legislative Representative for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. She also served as the Executive Director of the International Hispanic Network, a national membership organization of Hispanic city managers, which promotes professional excellence among Hispanic executives and public managers in local government. She served as the Assistant City Manager for the City of Eagle Pass.

Canales received a Master of Public Administration degree from Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government. She received a Master of Arts degree in Urban Studies from Trinity University in San Antonio, a Bachelor of Journalism degree from the University of Texas at Austin and an Associate of Arts degree from Southwest Texas Junior College. Canales is a native of Uvalde, Texas and maintains a residence in Eagle Pass, Texas.