



NEWS RELEASE

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SBA ADMINISTRATOR NAMES JAMES RIVERA AS ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

WASHINGTON – James Rivera has joined the Office of Capital Access as associate administrator for financial assistance, Hector V. Barreto, administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration, announced today.

“James brings extensive public and private sector lending experience to the Office of Capital Access,” Administrator Barreto said. **“He is also very knowledgeable about the SBA, having served in a variety of the agency’s program offices.”**

Most recently, Rivera was assistant administrator for Equal Employment Opportunity and Civil Rights Compliance. He served as the principal agency adviser on civil rights policies and was responsible for administering, strengthening and improving the agency’s civil rights and equal employment opportunity.

Before that, Rivera was deputy associate administrator for disaster assistance, where he was involved in developing and implementing SBA’s disaster loan program. He oversaw this key program nationwide, averaging \$1 billion annually in direct commercial and consumer loans to victims of natural and physical disasters.

Rivera started his career with SBA in 1989 as a loan specialist in the Disaster Area Office in Ft. Worth, Texas, and then transferred to SBA headquarters in Washington, D.C. In addition to his career in federal service, Rivera was employed in the private sector at two financial institutions in Texas as a commercial loan officer. His lending experience includes marketing, negotiating, underwriting and closing transactions in commercial real estate, wholesale and retail markets.

Rivera received a bachelor’s degree in business administration, in finance and economics, from Texas Tech University in 1983.

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