

## Remarks by Robert Santos, Director of the U.S. Census Bureau

### Swearing-In Ceremony

January 5, 2022

"I'm honored and humbled for this privilege.

I want to give thanks to President Biden and Secretary Raimondo for their selection of me for this position.

And I also want to thank my wife Adella, Emilio, my son, Clarisa, my daughter and all of the family - who hopefully are on the Zoom call - for their support throughout these times, as well as my friends and my colleagues.

Both at Urban Institute and everywhere.

I've been to many places - worked in many places - and your support was key in the statistical community, the policy research community, the advocacy community was key, I believe, to me being able to endure these many months and through the nomination process.

And a special thanks to the White House staff, the Department of Commerce staff and the - including the Census Bureau staff, for ushering me through this process because it can be pretty involved.

This represents - this swearing-in represents my transition from principally a policy-based research and statistics type of environment to one of public service, and I totally embrace that and want to be part of that. I'm excited at this opportunity to lead the Census Bureau team, and I believe in team efforts.

I look forward to advancing the mission of the Census Bureau to produce quality data about the nation's people and its economy, and to providing for the needs of the Department of Commerce and the Secretary's agenda, as well as the other federal agencies and departments, states, local governments and the stakeholders, the research communities and so forth.

I pledge to lead by example using my values, my experience - over 40 years, and my perspective as a Latino.

I believe that diverse perspectives are needed in order for us to discern more accurately what is going on in our country and how we can better respond to the needs of our population and our economy. And I will do so with fidelity to the Constitution, the rule of law and, of course, with high, staunch adherence to scientific integrity and objectivity.

I recognize that challenges exist at the Census Bureau currently, and there will be some in the future. After all, this is the age of COVID.

The unexpected will happen and I will rely on the expert career staff and support from Secretary Raimondo, the Commerce Department, Congress, the Senate and so forth, and stakeholders in the community to help respond to these challenges in a way that benefits our country.

I stand ready to work with the Census Bureau team, its stakeholders and the research community itself.

So thank you very much, and let the work begin!"