

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JULY 29, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced the appointment of Thomas Aranda, Jr., of Phoenix, Arizona, as Special Assistant to the President for Hispanic Affairs. He will succeed Ferdinand DeBaca who has resigned. Mr. Aranda has been a senior partner in the law firm of DePrima, Aranda & de Leon representing various Hispanic groups, since its founding in 1968.

Mr. Aranda was born on April 9, 1934, in Nogales, Arizona. He received his B.S. degree from the University of Arizona in 1964 and his J.D. degree from the University of Arizona College of Law in 1967. He served as a Major in the United States Air Force from 1955 to 1960 and was in the Air National Guard from 1960 to 1972.

Mr. Aranda was the first Hispanic American appointed by the Mayor of Phoenix to several boards including the Municipal Aeronautics Advisory Board and the License Appeals Board. He was appointed by the President to the National Advisory Council on Extension and Continuing Education in September, 1975.

Married to the former Shirley Ann Gragson, Mr. and Mrs. Aranda have two children. They reside in Sterling Park, Virginia.

#