



Jose Keichi Fuentes

Founding/Managing Partner, The Fuentes Consulting Group, LLC

Jose Keichi Fuentes serves as the Founding/Managing Partner for The Fuentes Rodriguez Consulting Group, a firm that specializes in governmental affairs and business development representing private and public clients at the local, state and federal level.

He previously served as the Regional Director for the South Florida Water Management District's Miami-Dade Service Center, a position he held for ten years. Jose has served in the public sector for more than seventeen years, including as a Legislative Assistant for various State Legislators, Director of the Office of Hispanic Affairs for the Speaker of the House, Special Assistant to Senator Connie Mack and also as the legislative liaison on environmental and growth management issues for the Broward County Commission.

As part of his civic and community endeavors he serves on the Board of Trustees for Miami Dade College, City of Miami Mayors International Council, City of Miami Waterfront Advisory Board, DERM Wetland Advisory Task Force, Miami-Dade County Asian-American Advisory Board, FIU Honors College Advisory Board, City Year Miami Board Member and Chair of the Miami/Kagoshima Sister Cities Committee (MKSCC) and the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce Political Outreach Committee. Nationally, he serves as a member of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF) and is an alumnus of the Japanese American Leadership Delegation (JALD).

Jose Fuentes has been recognized for his dedication and devotion to public service by several civic organizations, municipalities and elected officials. Jose has been honored with the "Valor Award" by the American Diabetes Association for his Commitment to Community Services; Finalist, South Florida/ Up and Comers Award; and was honored by the South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, 11th Annual Sunshine Awards, as Public Official of the Year for his dedication and public service to South Florida. He also included in "Who's Who" of Asian Americans. Jose has been featured in The Miami Herald numerous times for his dedication and devotion to Community Service and also for his Japanese/ Cuban heritage.

Jose is proud to be a Miami Dade College and St. Thomas University Alumni, and a former St. Thomas University Coca Cola Hispanic Scholarship Recipient. He earned his Bachelor's Degree at St. Thomas University in Miami, FL. He is an avid runner and an accomplished Marathoner. However, Jose is proudest of his daughter Christina Fuentes, a student at the University of Miami.



Raul F. Rodriguez

Managing Partner, The Fuentes Consulting Group, LLC

Raul F. Rodriguez was born in Miami and is a graduate of Belen Jesuit Preparatory School. He attended the Real Colegio Universitario Escorial Maria Cristina in Madrid and Florida International University. A successful businessman and community leader, Rodriguez has a varied set of business interests. He is founder & president of Agua Dulce Investments, LLC, a private investments and family wealth management company, chairman and president Luar Entertainment, with ownership interest in Segafredo's Café and Irish Pubs. He is also the managing director of Li'l Abner Mobile Home Park, a community of about 3,500 residents in Sweetwater Florida. Other interests include real estate, the breeding of Paso Fino horses and martial arts.

The businessman is also involved in philanthropic work. As president of the Rayni Foundation, he has provided over 100 scholarships so that immigrant children succeed in school. He is also the founder and president of the Li'l Abner Foundation. The organization offers tutoring to children in collaboration with the FIU Honors College, Belen Jesuit School, and Lourdes Academy. The foundation funds two scholarships each year to Belen and two scholarships to Florida International University.

Raul has extensive experience in managing successful businesses. He understands the importance of providing clients a superior experience that is why he has assembled a top notch team of professionals with years of experience and has provided the tools needed to assure that his companies offers a good service.

Richard F. Candia

Partner, The Fuentes Consulting Group, LLC

With more than 20 years of experience in the government and business development sector Richard Candia has joined with the Fuentes Consulting Group, LLC (FCG) to represent clients and their issues before government and regulatory bodies in Florida.

A great part of his career was dedicated to representing two of South Florida's most prestigious institutions, Florida International University (1996-2004) and the University of Miami (2004-2008), before the Florida Legislature and in Washington. His accomplishments include helping to establish the College of Law at FIU (required a political and community strategy); the pursuit of sovereign immunity for the UM medical school (a Quijotesque pursuit that nonetheless helped the University identify other strategies); and successfully securing increased funding each year for both institutions. Through those experiences he was exposed to the multiple issues these institutions face: land use, funding, legal, community campaigns, outreach challenges, as well as education issues. His effectiveness and ability to



reach out to other interests while pursuing those of his institution created favorable linkages that have enabled him to pursue a role of advocacy in children's issues, cancer research, and higher education funding.

In his current role, Rich seeks to leverage his broad knowledge and experience to assist clients build lasting relationship and identify solutions and opportunities that meet their needs. Relationship building is critical in this industry and Rich takes pains to make sure his clients understand and are successful in creating and maintaining those relationships. His community efforts have included Foster Care Review Board, Kendall Homeowners Association, and the Doral Business Council.

He is currently a member of the FIU President's Council, Friends of Sylvester Cancer Center, the Miami-Dade Climate Change Committee, and the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce where he will be a facilitator in the Chamber's very successful Leadership Miami program for the 2010-2011 Class.

Professionally he worked with the Florida Department of Labor and as chief of staff for then State Senator Mario Diaz-Balart.

Rich graduated from Florida State University in 1988 and received his MBA from FIU in 2005. He enjoys the outdoors, reading, cooking, and spending time with his two beautiful children Alex and Sara.



Elizabeth Simonhoff
Associate, The Fuentes Consulting Group, LLC

Elizabeth {Liz} Simonhoff joined the Fuentes Rodriguez Consulting Group as an Associate where she works on a daily basis to represent our municipal and business clients in Miami Dade County and Tallahassee.

Previously, Liz worked at the Greater Miami Chamber in the Government Affairs Department where she interacted with business and community leaders to address various public policy and political issues in South Florida, Tallahassee and Washington. Before joining the Chamber, she was involved in running local campaigns for the State Legislature and the City of Miami.

In addition to her professional responsibilities, her community involvement includes being Co-Chair for the City Year Miami Ambassador's Program, Board Member for Read2Succeed and a Co-Director of the New Leaders Council Miami Chapter. She is also a Past Board Member for Citizens for a Better South Florida Young Professionals Group.

Liz attended Arizona State University where she received her degree in Finance and Political Science. Thereafter, she studied at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs where she obtained her Masters in Public Administration. Liz was born and raised on Miami, Florida.



Daniel A. Espino, Esq.
General Counsel

Daniel A. Espino, Esq. serves as General Counsel to the Firm, providing legal guidance on an array of issues from corporate housekeeping and business planning to commercial transactions and government relations. Dan's diverse legal, business and government experience makes him a strategic asset to the Firm. Dan is also of-counsel to the law firm of Kravitz & Talamo, LLP, where he further his practice by representing clients seeking to fulfill their business goals by way of addressing commercial, administrative and government situations. Previously, Dan was a managing member of Borgognoni & Espino, P.L., serving as the Chair of the Firm's Corporate and Transactional Matters Departments. He is admitted to practice in the State of Florida.

Dan serves as a Councilman for the City of Miami Springs. He was elected to his first term in 2009, becoming the youngest elected official in City history, and re-elected by an overwhelming margin in 2011. While in office, Dan has championed the revitalization of the City's commercial areas, worked toward the reduction of government bureaucracy and expenditures and advocated for an increase in civic education and volunteerism. Before being elected to office, Dan served on the City's Code Review Board for almost two years, followed by the City's Board of Adjustment/Zoning and Planning Board for almost three years.

Dan is also very involved in his community beyond his elected office. He serves on the Intergovernmental Relations Committee of the Florida League of Cities, as well as the Legislative Committee of the Miami-Dade League of Cities. Dan is on the Board of Directors of of Curtiss Mansion Inc., a non-profit group charged with the restoration and management of the Glenn H. Curtiss Mansion, in Miami Springs, to be used as a museum and multi-purpose cultural center. He also serves as on the Board of Directors of Monsignor Edward Pace High School, for which he also serves its inaugural Alumni Association President. He is involved with the

Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce and the South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Cuban American Bar Association through its Young Lawyers Steering Committee. Dan has lectured in Miami Dade College with the Generation Engage Group and is active with American Cancer Society through the Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Relay for Life.

Dan graduated from the Honors College of the University of Miami with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in political science and religious studies and obtained his Juris Doctorate from the Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center, having been a part of its Moot Court Society and Law Review. As a member of the Nova Law Review, Dan earned the exceptional honor of national publication of his legal article, entitled "The Step-Down Restitution Policy: A Proposal for an Equitable Resolution to Confiscated Cuban Property."

Dan and his beautiful wife, Christina, reside in Miami Springs, Florida.



Angela Martinez

Information Technology Administrator and Executive Assistant to Raul F. Rodriguez

Angela Martinez serves as the Information Technology Administrator and Executive Assistant to Managing Partner, Raul Rodriguez.

In her capacity as IT Administrator, Angela handles all database administration and technical support for the office. She has experience with designing and developing various geographic and human resources information systems.

Aside to her technological role, Angela manages the schedule and daily functionalities for Raul Rodriguez, which consists of the Lil' Abner Foundation, Aguadulce Investments, Rosa Horses, VE Restaurants and the Fuentes Rodriguez Consulting Group.

Angela received her degree in System Engineer and Telecommunications from the Universidad Autónoma de Manizales. She was born and raised in Colombia.



Bruno Lopes

Executive Assistant to Jose Keichi Fuentes

Bruno has been involved in politics for over ten years and brings with an extensive network. He received his B.A. from Florida International University in Political Science with a Minor in Finance in 2006.

His career has led him to work for campaigns at all levels of government, including President Obama's inaugural run and more recently, Mayor Carlos Gimenez' successful bid for Miami-Dade County Mayor.

Bruno also worked as a Congressional Aide for Congressman Kendrick B. Meek, who served under the powerful Ways and Means Committee.