

Jose N. Uranga (NMSU, BA Government 1969)



Jose N. Uranga received his B.A. from NMSU in 1969, his J.D. from Georgetown University in 1972 and his M.A. from the University of Texas, San Antonio in 1975.

Jose grew up in Carlsbad, New Mexico, where he graduated from high school before studying at New Mexico State University (NMSU). He received a BA in Government (with Honors and a Pre-Law concentration). As a student within the College of Arts & Sciences at NMSU, Jose was elected Vice-President of the Associated Students of New Mexico State University (ASNMSU) and helped enact ASNMSU's first Student Bill of Rights.

Jose then attended Georgetown University Law School, graduating with a Juris Doctorate in 1972. Law School highlights include clerking for US Senator Joseph Montoya and several Executive Branch agencies. In 1975, Jose earned an MA in Environmental Science with Honors from the University of Texas, San Antonio.

After serving as a US Army Captain in the Judge Advocate General Corps, Jose practiced environmental law for thirty years, both as a prosecutor in the Texas Attorney General's

Office and the US Department of Justice, and as corporate counsel to several Fortune 500 corporations in Indiana, Pennsylvania, Texas and California. Career highlights were receiving an appointment from President Carter to serve as Special Assistant for Environmental Law to US Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti and being appointed to the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Environmental Law for six years.

In retirement, Jose volunteers as a docent at the three Ringling museum, serving on several non-profit boards of directors and being President of the Florida Chapter of the NMSU Alumni. Two highlights from retirement are to have served fifteen years on the NMSU Foundation Board, including being Chairman for two years and having three books published detailing the Hispanic experience in the Southwest and West.