



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Podesta Group Announces Addition of Key Strategist**

*Oscar Ramirez joins public affairs firm after serving as Special Assistant to the Secretary of Labor*

Kimberley Fritts, Chief Executive Officer of the Podesta Group, today announced that Oscar Ramirez has joined the firm as a Principal.

"Oscar brings a diverse skill set to the firm, and his knowledge and expertise will be advantageous to our clients," said Fritts. "He is a tested political expert in all facets of the field."

Ramirez will work closely with the firm's financial services, telecommunications and health care clients.

In his capacity as Special Assistant to Secretary Solis, a position to which he was appointed by President Obama, Ramirez was responsible for the Labor Department's outreach to state and local governments. He also acted as the primary liaison to various constituency groups as well as business and community-based organizations.

A seasoned veteran of Capitol Hill, Ramirez served as Chief of Staff to Rep. Hilda Solis (D-CA). He also served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Rep. Al Green (D-TX) and Legislative Director for Rep. Joe Baca (D-CA), both members of the Financial Services Committee.

Ramirez has provided expert political strategy on many Democratic national and state campaigns. Most recently, he served as the Virginia Policy Director for the Obama campaign. His other campaign experience includes working on John Kerry's presidential campaign as well as Mark Warner's gubernatorial campaign and the 2006 Maryland Democratic Coordinated Campaign. Ramirez has been actively involved in the Latino community and in Montgomery County, Maryland. He was an elected member of the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee and is President of the Montgomery County Hispanic Democratic Club. From 2003 to 2007, he served as Vice President and then President of the Congressional Hispanic Staff Association. He is a member of the Hispanic National Bar Association.

Ramirez is a graduate of the George Washington University Law School and the George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs, where he received an M.A. in Latin American Studies. He received a B.A. in International Relations from the Johns Hopkins University. He resides in Silver Spring, Md., with his wife, Stephanie Valencia.

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*The Podesta Group is a bipartisan government relations and public relations firm located in Washington, DC. Clients include Google, Wal-Mart, BP, Textron, National Confectioners Association, Genzyme and Genentech.*