



PUERTO RICO CONFERENCE

2010 | Entrepreneurship for Growth



Hon. José Ramón Pérez-Riera
Secretary
Department of Economic
Development and Commerce
of Puerto Rico

José R. Pérez-Riera is the Secretary of the Department of Economic Development and Commerce (“DEDC”) for the Governor of Puerto Rico, Hon. Luis G. Fortuño.

Secretary Pérez-Riera oversees more than 1,300 employees and provides leadership for all economic development matters in Puerto Rico, including direct supervision of 10 agencies and public corporations.

Secretary Pérez-Riera is responsible for the design and implementation of comprehensive policies that promote Puerto Rico’s economic development. This policy is implemented through the different agencies ascribed to the DEDC, including the Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company (PRIDCO), Puerto Rico Tourism Company, the Port of the Americas, Convention Center District Authority, Puerto Rico Trade Company, Puerto Rico Film Commission, Puerto Rico Land Administration, Horse and Racetrack Administration and the Portal del Futuro (Roosevelt Roads Naval Station). DEDC’s main objective is to strengthen the Island’s business climate, to attract new investment and promote the creation of new jobs.

Secretary Pérez-Riera was formerly Vice President of Public Finance at Barclays Capital in New York, where he specialized in the Puerto Rico credit. He previously worked in UBS Investment Bank’s public finance group.

Prior to becoming an investment banker, Secretary Pérez-Riera worked for several law firms and also served as a law clerk for the Chief Judge of the District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. He is bar certified in Puerto Rico, New York, Florida, and Washington, D.C.

Secretary Pérez-Riera holds a B.A. from Georgetown University and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C.