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FCA appoints Maribel Duran chief of staff

McLEAN, Va., June 5, 2023 — FCA Board Chairman and CEO Vincent Logan today announced the selection of Maribel Duran as chief of staff for the Farm Credit Administration.

At its April meeting, the FCA board established the Office of the Chief of Staff and adjusted the agency's organizational structure accordingly. The following offices now report directly to the chief of staff: the Office of Agency Services, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, the Office of Data Analytics and Economics, and the Office of Information Technology. The chief of staff will work closely with Chairman Logan and FCA's leadership team to advance the agency's mission.

Maribel comes to FCA from the U.S. Department of Agriculture where she served as deputy chief of staff to Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack and as acting chief of staff to the department's acting Deputy Secretary Kevin A. Shea. In those roles, she oversaw the management and operations of a 100,000-person workforce supported by a nearly \$200 billion budget. She was also a key leader in helping the agency to address issues of equitable access to programs and services; to recruit and support a diverse workforce; and to build a healthy, modern, and inclusive workplace.

Before joining USDA, Maribel was chief of staff for the Leadership Division of the Aspen Institute, a global nonprofit organization whose stated mission is to realize "a free, just, and equitable society." As chief of staff, she oversaw the administrative, managerial, and financial functions for a division with approximately 60 employees and a \$25 million budget. She was also the institute's first managing director for equity and inclusion, leading the strategy that supported its commitment to affirming human dignity and to working toward a free, just, and equitable society.

Maribel served eight years at the U.S. Department of Education in the Obama administration. In 2009, she joined former U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan as special assistant in the Office of the Secretary. Later, she served as chief of staff for the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics, where she helped secure over \$335 million in public and private commitments to support high-quality education for the nation's Hispanic community. She also served as chief of staff for the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, and as a member of the White House Council on Women and Girls Federal Taskforce and as a member of the Education Department's Diversity and Inclusion Working Group. She began her career with the Chicago Public Schools system.

"I am excited to welcome Maribel Duran to the FCA team," said Chairman Logan. "Her outstanding leadership skills and extensive experience in high-level staff positions in the White House, the Agriculture Department, the Education Department, and the Aspen Institute make her well qualified for the FCA chief of staff role. She's an inclusive, equity-focused leader who will strengthen FCA's already high-performing workforce as it carries out the important mission of ensuring a safe, sound, and dependable source of credit for America's farmers and ranchers."

"Organizations benefit from the perspective and experience of new staff and leaders," said FCA Board Member Jeff Hall, who also serves as chairman of the board of directors of the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation. "Maribel brings strong managerial skills and results to FCA, and I look forward to working with her."

"FCA will benefit greatly from Maribel's expertise and personal and professional experiences," said FCA Board Member Glen Smith. "Her time at USDA has given her valuable perspective on the important issues facing agricultural producers and rural America. I welcome her ideas to strengthen and support the agricultural sector, which is vital to our nation's overall economic growth."

Maribel holds a bachelor's degree in English language and literature and an honorary doctorate in education from Southern New Hampshire University. She is the first Latina trustee of Southern New Hampshire University. She is also a featured speaker in the TED talk series titled "Rewriting Your Narrative."

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The Farm Credit Administration is the safety and soundness regulator of the Farm Credit System. The System consists of two government-sponsored enterprises — a nationwide network of cooperative banks and associations established in 1916, and a secondary market entity known as the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation (Farmer Mac), which was established in 1988. The System's borrower-owned banks and associations provide credit to farmers, ranchers, residents of rural communities, agricultural and rural utility cooperatives, and other eligible and creditworthy borrowers. Farmer Mac provides a secondary market for agricultural real estate loans, rural housing mortgage loans, and certain rural utility loans. FCA news releases are available on the web at www.fca.gov.