Diplomat in Residence – Southwest

Kenneth P. Chavez is the U.S. Department of State Diplomat in Residence for the Southwest United States.

Diplomats in Residence (DIRs) are career Foreign Service Officers located throughout the U.S. who provide guidance and advice on careers, internships and fellowships to students and professionals in the communities they serve.

A native of the Southwest, Ken Chavez joined the Foreign Service in 2004 and was most recently the Deputy Consul General at the U.S. Embassy in Managua, Nicaragua. Before his assignment to Managua, Ken worked in Washington D.C. as the Spokesperson for the Bureau of Consular Affairs. Ken also served as a Watch Officer in the State Department Operations Center, a 24-hour communication and crisis management center for the State Department. Prior to his assignments in Washington, Ken served as a Consular Officer in Guadalajara, Mexico and Beijing, China. In Beijing, Ken was also Staff Assistant to the Ambassador.

Ken is available to answer questions and share insights with those interested in Foreign and Civil Service careers, internships and fellowships.

Please contact Ken directly at DIRSouthwest@state.gov.