



Congressman Silvestre Reyes

Rep. Silvestre Reyes, now in his fourth term, became the first Hispanic to represent the 16th District of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1996.

After serving his country in Vietnam, Reyes began his career with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Reyes was Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol first in the McAllen sector and subsequently in the El Paso sector from 1984 until his retirement in December 1995.

Reyes is a member of the House Armed Services Committee where he serves as the Ranking Member of the Strategic Forces Subcommittee and as a member of the Subcommittee on Readiness. Reyes also serves on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee and the House Permanent Select Committee intelligence. Congressman Reyes is the immediate past chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC), and currently serves as the Chair of the CHC's international Relations Task Force. Reyes was a founding member of the Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus and serves on a variety of other caucuses and coalitions. In addition, Reyes is a member of the U.S.-Mexico Interparliamentary Group, and was selected by the Democratic Leadership to serve on the Democratic Task Force on Drugs.

He is married to Carolina Gaytan Reyes, and they have three children Monica, Rebecca, and Silvestre Jr. He is also grandfather to Amelia Thomas Reyes born in February 2002. *Inducted into the El Paso County Democratic Hall of Fame by the El Paso County Democratic Hall of Fame by the El Paso Democratic Party Executive*