

Biography

Biography of The Honorable Solomon P. Ortiz (D-TX)

Representing the 27th Congressional District, including Nueces, Cameron, Kenedy, Kleberg, San Patricio and Willacy Counties.

Public career synopsis:

- 1964,
elected Nueces County Constable
- 1968,
elected Nueces County Commissioner, re-elected in 1972
- 1976,
elected Nueces County Sheriff, re-elected in 1980
- 1982,
elected to the 98th United States Congress, re-elected each subsequent Congress

Congressional committees:

Members of Congress, who are players in the policy-making apparatus in the House of Representatives, learn early that nobody can know everything about all the issues, so they find a specialty in a particular arena. Ortiz is among this faction of House Members; his specialty is defense policy, particularly issues facing the readiness of the U.S. armed forces. He is currently the Chairman on the House Armed Services Committee's Subcommittee on Readiness.

House
Armed Services Committee

Subcommittees:

Readiness (Chairman)
Air and Land Forces

House Natural Resources

Committee

Subcommittees:

Energy and Mineral Resources

Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans

Military service:

United States Army, 1960-62; Specialist 4th Class, Military Policeman and Investigator in Verdun, France.

Personal:

Born June 3, 1937, in Robstown, Texas.
Methodist, divorced, two children; Yvette (husband, Carlos Sanchez; son, Oscar) and Solomon, Jr.

Affiliations:

Addiction, Treatment, & Recovery

Caucus

Cystic Fibrosis Caucus

Air Medical Caucus

American Red Cross

Airpower Caucus

Methamphetamine Caucus

Congressional Border Caucus, (Co-Chairman)

Bipartisan Senate Task Force of Fatherhood
Promotion

Community College Caucus

Rural Medical Caucus

Congressional Aerospace Caucus

Congressional Arts Caucus

Army Caucus

Congressional Coast Guard Caucus

Congressional Fatherhood Task Force

Congressional Fire Services Caucus

Congressional Hispanic Caucus, (Chairman,
102nd Congress)

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute,
(Chairman, 102nd Congress)

Congressional Mine Warfare Caucus, (founder
and co-chairman)

Congressional Oil and Gas Caucus

Congressional Sunbelt
Caucus

Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus

Congressional Travel/Tourism Caucus

Corpus
Christi Rotary
Club (Honorary)

Depot Caucus, (Co-Chairman)

Impact Aid Coalition (Steering Committee)

Interstate 69 Caucus

Law Enforcement Caucus

Minor League Baseball Caucus

Narcotics Abuse and Control Caucus

National Deputy Sheriff's Association

Navy/Marine Corps Caucus

Reserve Component Caucus

Romanian Caucus

Recording Arts and Sciences Caucus

Congressional Nanotechnology Caucus

Victims Rights Caucus

Wildlife Refuge Caucus

Honors attained for community and public achievement:

1980, Boss of the Year (American Businesswomen Association)

1981, Man of the Year (International Order of Foresters)

1986, Conservation Legislator of the Year (Sportsman Clubs of Texas)

1987, Tree of Life Award (Jewish National Fund)

1990, Who's Who among Hispanic Americans

1991, Leadership Award (Latin American Management Association)

1991, Doctorate of Humane Letters from Southeastern University (Honorary)

1992 and 1994, National Security Leadership Award (American Security Council)

1992, National Government Hispanic Business Advocate (U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce)

1994, Outstanding Achievement Award (American Logistics Association)

1996, Minuteman Award (National Guard Association)

1997, Man of the Year Award (National Association of Free Trade Zones)

2001, First annual Quality of Life Award (USO)

2002, Congressional Aerospace "Wings of Liberty" Award (Aerospace Industries Association)

2003, Independent Oil and Natural Gas Award (Independent Petroleum Assoc. of America)

2004, President's Award (Corpus Christi Chapter, NAACP)

2004, Legislator of the Year (Texas Public Power Association)

2004, Veteran Champion of the Year (Corpus Christi Branch, Small Business Administration)

2004, Congressional Partnership Award (National Association of Development Organizations)

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