

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

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**President Obama Announces More Key Administration Posts**

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, President Barack Obama announced his intent to nominate the following individuals to key administration posts: Robert M. Groves, Director of the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce; Victor M. Mendez, Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation; Peter H. Appel, Administrator, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Department of Transportation; and John Q. Easton, Director, Institute of Education Sciences, Department of Education.

**President Obama said**, "At this critical time for our nation, I am grateful that these individuals will join my team as we take on the challenges American families are facing today. I know that their skill, dedication and commitment to serving the American people will help us move our agenda for the future forward."

**President Obama announced his intent to nominate the following individuals today:**

**Robert M. Groves, Nominee for Director of the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce**

Robert M. Groves is Director of the University of Michigan Survey Research Center, Professor of Sociology at the University of Michigan, Research Professor at its Institute for Social Research, and Research Professor at the Joint Program in Survey Methodology, at the University of Maryland. From 1990–1992 Groves was an Associate Director of the U.S. Census Bureau, on loan from University of Michigan. From 1992–2001 he was the associate director, then director of the Joint Program in Survey Methodology, a graduate program sponsored by the US Federal statistical system. He is the author of seven books and scores of scientific articles concerning the improvement of surveys. He is a member of the Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Board of the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the Census Bureau. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association, an elected member of the International Statistical Institute, a National Associate of the National Academies, National Research Council, former President of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR), former Chair of the Survey Research Methods Section of the American Statistical Association. Groves was awarded AAPOR Innovator Award in 2000 and in 2001 he was awarded the distinguished achievement award, the AAPOR award, by the association. He was given the 2008 Fellow award by the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research. In 2008, he was given the Julius Shiskin Award for unusually original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics. Groves has an A.B. degree from Dartmouth College and a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.