



**J. ANTONIO VILLAMIL**

Dean, School of Business, St. Thomas University of Florida  
Principal Economic Advisor, The Washington Economics Group (WEG)

Tony Villamil has a successful thirty-year career as a business economist, university educator and high-level policymaker for both federal and state governments. He has served as a Presidential appointee, U.S. Undersecretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs, where he actively participated in the formulation of national and international economic policies. In 1993, he founded The Washington Economics Group, a growing and global-oriented economic consulting practice. Dr. Villamil was selected in August 2008 to serve as the Dean and Research Professor of Economics of the School of Business of St. Thomas University of Florida, while continuing his role as Principal Economic Advisor to the clients of WEG.

Tony is an active member of the President’s Advisory Committee on Trade Policy and Negotiations in Washington, D.C., providing advice to the Executive Office of the President on trade and foreign investment issues. He is the immediate past Chairman of the Governor’s Council of Economic Advisors of Florida, and during 1999-2000, he directed the Tourism, International Trade and Economic Development Department of the State in the Office of Governor Jeb Bush. Under the Governor’s leadership, Dr. Villamil organized, jointly with Enterprise Florida, successful Governor-led business development missions to Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Israel, and to other trade partners of the State. Tony’s high-level corporate activities include membership on the Board of Directors of the Spanish Broadcasting System (SBS), Mercantil Commercebank, N.A. and Enterprise Florida – the State’s principal economic development organization. At Enterprise Florida, Dr. Villamil serves as Chairman of the Global Commerce and Investment Committee of the Board.

Among community leadership positions, he is currently Chairman of the Economic Roundtable of the Beacon Council and serves on the Board of Directors of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce. He is also a Senior Research Fellow of Florida TaxWatch, an established fiscal and policy research organization of the State.

Dr. Villamil earned bachelor and masters degrees in economics from Louisiana State University (LSU), where he also completed coursework for the Ph.D. degree. In 1991, Florida International University (FIU) awarded him a doctoral degree in economics (hc), for “distinguished contributions to the Nation in the field of economics.” At FIU, he has served as Senior Fellow of the Latin American & Caribbean Center and most recently as a Professor of International Business and Competitive Strategy in the MBA Programs of the Graduate School of Business.