



## Office of Public Relations

### **Pedro J. Rivera**

Regional Multi-Ethnic Catalytic Missionary  
Southwest Florida Region  
Language Missions Division  
Serving the Convention since 1998

**Primary Responsibility:** To assist churches and associations in bringing language-culture persons to Christ through the starting and development of indigenous churches.

**Birth:** Puerto Rico, May 17, 1937

**Marital Status:** October 25, 1958      **Spouse:** Ann Friley

**Children:** Miguel            (August 18, 1960)  
Yvonne                (April 23, 1963)  
Raquel                (August 19, 1969)  
Yvette                 (October 4, 1970)

**Education:** M.R.E., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisiana, 1975  
B.A., Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas, 1972  
High School, Boys High School, Brooklyn, New York, 1956

**Previous Experience:** Director of Language Church Extension, Illinois Baptist State Association, 1986 to present  
Director of Missions, Metro-Peoria Baptist Association, Peoria, Illinois, 1978-1986  
Pastor, Second Baptist Church, Herrin, Illinois, 1975-1978  
Psychiatric/Mental Health Technician, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1974-1975  
Missionary, First Baptist Church, Greta, Louisiana, 1973-1975  
Missionary Associate, Home Mission Board of the SBC; Texas, Louisiana  
Pastor, Jerusalem Baptist Mission, Stamford, Texas, 1969-1972  
Pastor, Peacock Baptist Mission, Peacock, Texas, 1968-1969  
Pastor, Calvary Baptist Mission, Thailand

**Publications:** Author of various articles and devotional guides

**Church Membership:**

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Pedro (Pete) J. Rivera

Date and Place of BirthMay 17, 1937<sup>98</sup>

Puerto Rico

Family

Wife: Ann Friley  
Married October 25, 1958

Son: Miguel  
August 18, 1960

Daughters: Yvonne  
April 23, 1963  
  
Raquel  
August 19, 1969  
  
Yvette  
October 4, 1970

Conversion

Converted at age 12 and baptized at Hanley Road Baptist Church, St. Louis, Missouri, 1956

Ordination

Ordained to the gospel ministry in 1969 by the Ballast Point Baptist Church, Tampa, Florida

Education

High School -- Boys High School, Brooklyn, New York, 1956  
B.A. Degree -- Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas, 1972  
M.R.E. Degree -- New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1975

Former Positions

Director of Language Church Extension -- Illinois Baptist State Association, 1986 to the present time  
Director of Missions -- Metro-Peoria Baptist Association, Peoria, Illinois, 1978-1986  
Pastor -- Second Baptist Church, Herrin, Illinois, 1975-1978  
Psychiatric/Mental Health Technician -- Coliseum House and DePaul Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1974-1975  
Missionary -- First Baptist Church, Greta, Louisiana, 1973-1975  
Missionary Associate -- Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Texas and Louisiana  
Pastor -- Jerusalem Baptist Mission, Stamford, Texas, 1969-1972  
Pastor -- Peacock Baptist Mission, Peacock, Texas, 1968-1969  
Pastor -- Calvary Baptist Mission, Thailand

Military Service

United States Air Force, 1956-1968

Denominational/Other Activities

Mentor Training; Convener Training; Assessment Training; Basic Training for Church Planters – Church Multiplication System of the North American Mission Board, 1997 and 1997

Member – Southern Baptist Historical Society

Member – Chicago Committee on Immigrant Protection

Member – Regional Advisory Committee, Illinois Migrant Council, Peoria, Illinois

Publications

Note Burning Ceremony, published in the July 1986 issue of *Chute Administration Magazine*

Pastor to Pastor, published in *Nuestra Tarea*, March 1996

Good News American Daily Devotional Guide, contributing author, November 1985

Here's Hope Daily Devotional Guide, contributing author, 1994

Quietud, contributing author, January 1994; March 1995; Summer 1999

Honors

ALPHA MU GAMMA – National Collegiate Foreign Language Honor Society for studies in French

Hobbies

Reading, walking, golf and music

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION  
FOR  
PEDRO J. RIVERA

WHEREAS, Pedro J. Rivera has served the Florida Baptist Convention since 1998 and retired earlier this year from service as a regional multi-ethnic catalytic missionary of the Language Missions Division of the Florida Baptist Convention; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Rivera was converted at age twelve and baptized in the Hanley Road Baptist Church, St. Louis, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, his spiritual gifts were recognized and he was ordained as a minister of the gospel in 1969 by the East Ballast Point Baptist Church, Tampa, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Rivera graduated from Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas in 1972, and earned the Master of Religious Education degree in 1975 from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Rivera served at various times as pastor of churches in Thailand, Texas and Illinois; as a missionary associate with the then Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board and later as a church-appointed missionary in Greta, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Rivera also previously served as director of missions for the Metro-Peoria (Illinois) Baptist Association and as director of language church extension, Illinois Baptist State Association; and

WHEREAS, Pedro Rivera joined the staff of the Florida Baptist Convention in 1998, as a catalytic field missionary assigned to starting multi-ethnic and language congregations in the Southwest region of Florida; and

WHEREAS, because of the dedicated service and diligent efforts by Pedro Rivera during the past eight years, 50 language congregations were started, resulting in hundreds of people being able to hear the message of Jesus in their native language; and

WHEREAS, the life and ministry service rendered by Pedro Rivera has been motivated by a commitment to God that accepted the scriptural admonition made in Psalms 46:10 which reminds us to, "Be still and know that I am God. . ." ; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Florida Baptist State Convention meeting in annual session, November 13-14, 2006, in Fort Myers, Florida, express gratitude to God for the faithful and committed service of Pedro J. Rivera, given to our Lord and to Florida Baptists, and that we assure him and his wife, Ann, of the prayers, love and best wishes of this Convention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be presented to Pedro Rivera as an expression of our love and appreciation to him.

**15. Resolution of Appreciation: Pedro J. Rivera**

**BACKGROUND:** On June 30, 2006, Pedro J. Rivera retired as multi-ethnic catalytic missionary, having served Florida Baptists since 1998. As an expression of love and appreciation, convention administration is recommending approval of the attached resolution of appreciation.

**STAFF**

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Administrative/Personnel Committee of the State Board of Missions recommend that the Board approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Pedro J. Rivera and recommend its adoption by the Florida Baptist State Convention during its annual meeting November 13-14, 2006, in Fort Myers, Florida.

**COMMITTEE**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**BOARD ACTION:**