



Speaker, Moderator and Panelist Biographies

Ann P. Kalayil, Ph.D.,
Regional Administrator
General Services Administration

Ann Kalayil was named Regional Administrator of the General Services Administration's Great Lakes Region in January 2011. As the agency's regional chief executive, Kalayil heads operations that provide Federal agencies and the U.S. Courts in six states with support in vital areas such as real estate services, procurements, information technology, supplies, equipment, and vehicles. Headquartered in Chicago, the Region has a workforce of 956 employees and an annual operating budget of approximately \$450 million.

Prior to this appointment, Ann worked for more than 12 years at the University of Chicago in Information Technology Services, where she worked in Emerging Technologies and Communications but previously was Director of Client Services and Support. Ann has taught interdisciplinary courses on Asian Americans at DePaul University, Loyola University Chicago, and the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Ann received a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Chicago, a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science from Northeastern Illinois University, a Master's Degree in Asian Studies from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and a Doctorate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is very active in many community and civic activities dealing with education policy, campaign finance reform, immigration reform, and documenting Asian American history. A Leadership Greater Chicago Fellow, Ann has also served on several government task forces and has participated in many panel discussions on the above issues. She is also co-Director of the South Asian American Policy & Research Institute and a member of many community based organizations. Ann's appointment is historic as she is the first woman to serve as Regional Administrator of the General Services Administration in this Region.

Steven M. Dettelbach
United States Attorney
Northern District of Ohio

Steven M. Dettelbach was nominated by President Obama on July 10, 2009 and unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate on September 15, 2009 as United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio. He comes to his position as chief federal law enforcement officer for the northern forty counties of Ohio with a wealth of varied experience.

Mr. Dettelbach previously served for over 12 years as a career federal prosecutor. During those years, he worked at the Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Criminal Section; U.S. Attorneys Offices in Maryland and Washington, D.C.; and from 2003 to 2006 in the Northern District of Ohio, as a member of the Organized Crime and Corruption Strike Force.

Among the high-profile cases he prosecuted were those against Nate Gray and former East Cleveland Mayor Emmanuel Onunwor, who were both convicted of taking part in a pay-to-play scheme involving bribes in Cleveland, East Cleveland, Houston and New Orleans. He also won convictions in what was, at the time, the largest human trafficking case ever brought in the United States, in which approximately 70 Thai women were held against their will and forced to work in El Monte, California.

Mr. Dettelbach also was detailed to serve as Counsel for the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary from 2001 to 2003. Most recently, Mr. Dettelbach was a partner at the law firm of Baker & Hostetler, LLP.

Mr. Dettelbach graduated from Dartmouth College in 1988 and from Harvard Law School in 1991. He lives in Solon, Ohio with his wife and two children.

Michael G. Wolff

Regional Procurement Officer
GSA Public Buildings Service

Mike Wolff currently serves as Director of Acquisition Management for PBS in the Great Lakes Region. His Division provides acquisition policy guidance, oversight, and support to PBS organizations for services and construction acquisitions.

Mike joined GSA in 1991 as a Contract Specialist and has also worked in the Property Management and former Property Development divisions. In between jobs at GSA, he worked in acquisitions for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Mike received his Bachelor's Degree in Management (Magna Cum Laude) from Northern Illinois University and is a member of the National Contract Management Association.

Robert J. Patton

Assistant U.S. Attorney
Northern District of Ohio

Robert J. Patton works in the Major Fraud and Corruption Unit for the United States Attorney's Office, Northern District of Ohio. He focuses on white-collar and public corruption crimes including securities fraud, money laundering, Hobbs Act violations and labor charges, among other crimes. He was co-counsel on the first trial of the Cuyahoga County corruption cases, in which the MetroHealth Medical Center Project Manager was convicted of bribery conspiracy, Hobbs Act conspiracy, tax charges and mail fraud conspiracy following a three-week trial. He was also lead counsel on a public corruption case involving a police officer trafficking kilograms of cocaine, and has prosecuted numerous narcotics and firearms cases. Bob holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Cleveland State University and is a graduate of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

Adam R. Gooch

Inspector General for Audits
General Services Administration

Adam Gooch has been Regional Inspector General for Audits in the Office of Inspector General (OIG) since September 2010. The OIG is responsible for conducting an independent nationwide audit and investigative program of GSA's internal operations and programs as well as external contractors. The Chicago Field Audit Office employs a staff of 19 employees and provides primary audit coverage in Region 5 but also is responsible for selected national audit projects. The regional OIG staffs are Central Office employees assigned to duty stations in the various GSA regional offices nationwide.

Adam joined GSA in 1998 as an Auditor with the Office of Inspector General in Region 6. He joined Region 5 in 2004 and, in 2007, was promoted to Audit Manager. He has been extensively involved in a variety of auditing areas, including examining claims, reviewing Multiple Award Schedule contracts, and doing internal reviews in both FAS and PBS.

He is a graduate of Drury College where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and Accounting.

Stuart G. Berman

Special Agent-in-Charge,
Central Regional Investigations Office
General Services Administration

Stuart Berman has served as Special Agent-in-Charge, Central Regional Investigations Office, Office of Inspector General (OIG), since August 2008. In this role, he oversees the regional program preventing and detecting illegal and/or improper activities involving GSA programs, operations, and personnel.

Stuart began his GSA career in 1998 as a Special Agent and has led successful case conclusions such as multi-million dollar civil settlements, criminal cases with multiple year sentences, suspensions, and debarments. Prior to joining GSA, Stuart worked for the Illinois Secretary of State and Department of Securities.

Stuart graduated Summa Cum Laude from DePaul University with a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

J. Lisa Romney

Senior Procurement Analyst

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics
(OUSD(AT&L))

Ms. J. Lisa Romney is a Senior Procurement Analyst in the Office of Defense Procurement & Acquisition Policy (DPAP) of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Acquisition Technology & Logistics (OUSD(AT&L)). As part of the Program Development and Implementation Directorate within DPAP, she leads the development of overall requirements and policies for procurement-related Department of Defense enterprise business systems and capabilities. Since joining DPAP, in August 2002, Ms. Romney has taken the lead on DoD's implementation of the federal Integrated Acquisition Environment (IAE) systems and capabilities, as well as the reporting requirements related to Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA).

Ms. Romney began her career with DoD as a Contract Negotiator for the Air Force in 1990. Her assignments have included the Research and Development Directorate and the F-16 System Program Office in the Aeronautical Systems Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (AFB), Andrews AFB, and the 11th Contracting Squadron at Bolling AFB, where she held an unlimited warrant. In 1997, she became a Procurement Analyst in the office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary (Contracting) of the Air Force. There she worked with a Department-wide, electronic contracting system for the first time where she budgeted, planned and prepared for the Air Force's deployment of the Standard Procurement System. In 1998, she moved to her first overarching DoD position in the Joint Electronic Commerce Program Office, where she was Deputy Program Manager for the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) program. She became CCR's Program Manager in 2000, and her leadership resulted in federal adoption of the program.

Ms. Romney holds an undergraduate degree in finance and a masters degree in business administration, both earned from the University of Utah. She has been honored with several awards throughout her career, including the 2005 Federal 100 Award from Federal Computer Weekly, Certificates of Appreciation from OSD, and an E-Gov Certificate of Appreciation from the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. She is a member of the National Contract Management Association (NCMA) NOVA Chapter and is a Certified Professional Contracts Manager (CPCM).

Robert P. Theel

Design & Construction

Architecture & Engineering Programs Director

GSA Public Buildings Service

Robert P. Theel, AIA, serves as the U.S. General Services Administration's Chief Architect in the six-state Great Lakes Region headquartered in Chicago. He is the senior advisor to the Regional Administrator of GSA and the Regional Commissioner of the Public Building Service (PBS) regarding federal architecture, design, construction policy and innovation. He provides leadership for the regional design and construction programs for United States Courthouses, Federal Office Buildings and Border Stations.

Robert is a graduate of the Illinois Institute of Technology and has served the government as a design architect, project manager and design director prior to establishing the position of Chief Architect for the Great Lakes Region of GSA in 1999. In 2005, Robert was also appointed director of the regional Design & Construction Division for Architecture and Engineering Programs.

Robert has been a critic, jurist and lecturer for the Illinois Institute of Technology, University of Wisconsin and Yale University. He has also lectured and served as a panelist for the Chicago Architecture Foundation, the Graham Foundation, the American Institute of Architects, the National Organization of Minority Architects, the American Society of Landscape Architects, the American Institute of Steel Construction and the Design-Build Institute of America. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

Charles G. Hardy, CCM

Regional Recovery Executive

GSA Public Buildings Service

Chuck Hardy currently serves as the Regional Recovery Executive of GSA's Public Buildings Service, Great Lakes Region. As the agency's regional lead executive in charge of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) activities, Hardy heads the agency's Recovery Act operations in six states with support in vital areas such as design and construction, real estate services, and procurement.

Chuck joined GSA in 1991 as an architect. Prior to his current position, he served GSA in various roles, including Deputy

Director of the former Property Development Division. Before joining GSA, Hardy was an architect practicing in the areas of real estate development and commercial architectural design. Chuck is a retired officer of the U.S. Air Force Reserve, where he served as an intelligence officer.

Chuck holds Bachelor's Degrees in Architecture and Environmental Design from the University of Minnesota. He is active in both the public and professional community serving as an ex-officio board member of the Construction Managers Association of America and as a trustee for the Construction Users Roundtable (CURT).

J. David Hood

Regional Commissioner
GSA Public Buildings Service

J. David Hood currently serves as Regional Commissioner of the Public Buildings Service, heading the U.S. real estate operations in the six-state Region. In that post he is responsible for a property portfolio comprising more than 35 million square feet of offices and workplaces in nearly 1,000 buildings owned or leased by GSA.

David joined GSA's Great Lakes Regional Office in 1971 as an intern before becoming a real estate appraiser, a project manager, Director of Planning, and eventually serving as Deputy Assistant Regional Administrator, PBS. In 1993, David moved to the agency's former Federal Supply Service (FSS), where he served as Assistant Regional Administrator for nine years before taking the same position, now Regional Commissioner, with PBS. He is a member of the Federal Government's Senior Executive Service and is a recipient of GSA's Meritorious Service Award. David also served as Acting Regional Administrator from January 2009 – January 2011.

Born in Missouri, Hood is a graduate of Drury College and holds a master's degree in political science from the University of Chicago. Hood lives in LaGrange, Illinois, where he has served as a member and president of the planning Commission and a trustee on the LaGrange Village Board.

Eric L. Nelson

Partner
Smith, Currie & Hancock LLP

Eric Nelson is a partner with Smith, Currie & Hancock and practices in the area of construction law and government contracts, representing owners, engineers, general contractors, EPC and design-build contractors, construction managers and subcontractors.

Mr. Nelson's practice primarily involves dispute resolution of construction-related claims. He has tried cases in federal and state courts throughout the country and before the various federal government boards of contract appeals. He has also participated extensively in alternative dispute resolution, including negotiation, mediation and arbitration, both nationally and internationally.

In addition to dispute resolution, Mr. Nelson works with clients in negotiating and drafting construction contracts and assists clients with project administration and performance problems. Mr. Nelson received his law degree from Washington & Lee University Law School and his undergraduate degree from California Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo.

Tawanda Thomas

Supervisory Contracting Officer
GSA Federal Acquisition Service

Tawanda Thomas has served as the Supervisory Contract Specialist for the Acquisition Operations Division in FAS since 2009. Tawanda is responsible for supervising and managing a highly productive team of contract specialists responsible for a variety of acquisition requirements within Region 5.

Tawanda began her career with the US Environmental Protection Agency in the acquisition office and has 18 years of contracting experience.

In addition to Tawanda's extensive acquisition knowledge, she holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Keller's Graduate School of Management and a Bachelor's of Science degree in Accounting from Chicago State University.

Jonathan A. Arena

Senior Legal Counsel
NASA, Glenn Research Center

Mr. Arena serves as senior legal counsel to NASA's Glenn Research Center (NASA GRC) in Cleveland, Ohio. His practice is concentrated in the areas of procurement law, appropriations law, and Government ethics. He currently serves as NASA GRC's fraud counsel.

Prior to joining the Glenn Research Center, Jon practiced law at the Lyndon Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, where he served as the principal ethics counselor to NASA's astronaut corp. He has received numerous commendations and awards including being named NASA's Attorney of the Year in 2009.

A graduate of The Ohio State University and the William and Mary Law School, Mr. Arena currently resides in Medina with his wife Mari and their two daughters.

Kim E. Brown

Deputy Regional Commissioner
GSA Federal Acquisition Service

Kim Brown was named Deputy Regional Commissioner for FAS in 2011. In this role, Kim works with the Regional Commissioner in heading the regional branch of the nation's only source dedicated to procuring goods and services for other government agencies.

Kim began her GSA career as an intern with Fleet Management in 1989 before moving to the Contract Management Division, where she earned several promotions during her 15 year tenure. In 2005, she became the Acting Director for the regional Acquisitions workforce for the former Federal Technology Service, and, in 2006, she served as the Director of the Acquisition Operations Division, leading and managing the staff of Contracting Officers and Contracting Specialists responsible for the planning and administration of all FAS regional contracting functions.

Kim earned her Bachelor's Degree in Development and Social Policy, with a minor in Marketing, and a Master's of Business Administration Degree from Northwestern University.

Debra Wauchop

Supplier Management, Midwest Operations Center, Director
GSA Federal Acquisition Service

Debbie Wauchop has served as the Director of the Supplier Management, Midwest Operations Center, since its inception in 2008. As Director, she provides leadership in both Contract Administration and Industrial Operations. Her field staff of Industrial Operation Analysts (IOAs) covers an 11 state area which consists of Region 5 as well as Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. She ensures GSA customers receive quality goods and services when they place orders on GSA Schedules, through GSA Global Supply, and through GSA Automotive.

Debbie began her GSA career with the former Federal Supply Service in 1978 as a Secretary in Quality Assurance. She has worked in various specialist and supervisory positions in both Contracting and Quality Assurance.

She has attended both the University of Chicago and DePaul School for New Learning.

Paul J. Maxse

Regional Counsel
GSA Great Lakes Region

Paul J. Maxse has served as GSA's Regional Counsel since 1996. As senior legal counsel he represents GSA's operational and business interests in the Great Lakes Region.

Paul joined GSA in 1977 after serving four years active duty in the US Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. He has performed active reserve duty with the US Army Material Command, the Defense Logistics Agency and the Selective Service System Reserve Force.

Paul is a native of Cleveland, Ohio. He attended Cathedral Latin High School, John Carroll University and Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University.