



***Oliver C. Allen Jr***  
***CEO***

***Training and Development Strategies, LLC***

Oliver is a renowned and dynamic national speaker with over 41 years of leadership and training experience. He has served in numerous senior leadership positions within the Federal government and the military and currently is the CEO for Training and Development Strategies, LLC. He is also a former adjunct faculty member at the University of Phoenix with a focus on advanced career development and organizational management. He is the recipient of the Attorney General's Award for Equal Employment Opportunity and the Justice Management Division's Leadership Collaboration Award.

As a national speaker, Oliver infuses his audiences with storytelling, simulated exercises, gamification, and life experiences to ignite interactive discussions and learning. He has presented at numerous national conferences and has conducted workshops for numerous federal and state governments. His article titled *Diversity and Inclusion: Where Do I Belong*, was recently published in the LRP EEO Advisor (March 2019). Oliver has been a featured speaker on the Federal news program FEDTalk and a featured speaker for the LRP audio webinars. Oliver received his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Strayer College and a Master of Science in Administration in Human Resources from Central Michigan University.

On December 1, 2020, Oliver was appointed to serve on the Racial and Social Justice Commission for Prince William County, Virginia. He also holds memberships with the Association of Talent Development, the Society for Human Resource Management, the Federal EEO and Civil Rights Council, and the Association of the United States Army. He also served on the advisory board for the Talent Management Alliance Inclusion Summit.



***Dr. Supreet Anand***

***Acting Assistant Deputy Secretary and Director of Office of English Language Acquisition  
U.S. Department of Education***

Dr. Supreet Anand has been working in the field of education for more than 25 years. She currently serves as the acting assistant deputy secretary and director for the Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA). As the acting director for OELA, she informs policy decisions on English Learners (ELs), supervises OELA's role in disseminating information on educational research, practices, and policies for ELs through the National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition. Her work also includes supervising the discretionary grant programs under Title III of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Dr. Anand has also supervised formula grant programs, Title I, Title II, Title III under the ESSA in the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. Before joining ED, she served as the Title III director for the Maryland State Department of Education and supervised the Title III program in Prince George's County Public Schools, Maryland. In addition, she taught English as a second language in grades K-12 for over ten years and master's level courses at the University of Maryland. Dr. Anand holds a Ph.D. in education from University of Maryland, College Park; an MS in applied linguistics from Georgetown University, Washington D.C. and an MA in English literature from Punjab University, India.



***Virginia Andreu***  
***Assistant Director of Special Operations Division, Office of Federal Operations***  
***U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission***

Virginia Andreu is the Assistant Director of Special Operations Division, Federal Sector Programs within the Office of Federal Operations, United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Washington, D.C. Special Operations Division has a unique role in providing legal and technical advice to internal and external EEO stakeholders on complex legal issues in accordance with applicable Federal EEO laws and regulations.

Ms. Andreu's EEOC career began in 1999 as an Attorney Advisor in the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO). During her tenure with the EEOC, Ms. Andreu has served in several roles, including Acting Branch Chief and Attorney Advisor within Federal Sector Programs; and General Attorney in Appellate Review Program.

In addition, Ms. Andreu is a senior trainer, presenter, and educator, who has presented on behalf of the EEOC at various EEO and Diversity conferences, symposiums and trainings in the federal, state, and local governments as well as private sector.

Ms. Andreu obtained a Master of Laws (LLM.), in Law and Government, & Labor and Employment Law, from American University, Washington College of Law in Washington D.C; and received her Juris Doctor from the Pontifical Catholic University in Ponce, Puerto Rico. Ms. Andreu holds a BA in Political Science cum laude from the University of Puerto Rico in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. She is a member of the District of Columbia Bar and the Puerto Rico Bar.



***Miguel "Joey" Avilés***  
***Global D&I Keynote Speaker***  
***MJA International, LLC.***

Recognized as a 2022 LinkedIn's Racial Equity Top Voice, 2021 Top 15 Champion of Diversity by Diversity Global Magazine, as a Top 100 Executive Leader by Diversity MBA Magazine, and featured as an Inclusion Innovator by the Society of Human Resources Management (SHRM).

Miguel is the Founder and Chief Belonging Officer of MJA & CO, LLC, a Minority-owned consulting firm helping leaders leverage Diversity, Equity & Inclusion as a catalyst to increase engagement, innovation, and retention.

Miguel served as the first civilian Chief of Diversity and Inclusion in the history of the US Coast Guard. He is a DEI Thought Leader with over 15 years of experience serving clients like Dell Technologies, Ferrara, University of Phoenix, Highmark Health, Peace Corps, FDIC, FDA, NIH, Department of Defense, Department of Interior, Department of Homeland Security, and other organizations. Miguel is a TEDx speaker, and has been featured at the Washington Post, the Chicago Tribune, Telemundo, the Change Management Conference, the Human Capital Institute, the SHRM Talent Management and D&I Conferences.

Miguel is a graduate of the Yale School of Management Fostering Inclusion and Diversity Certificate and is a certified Professional Diversity Coach by the Coach Diversity Institute. He has a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Puerto Rico in Mayaguez.

For over a decade he held several leadership positions in 3 major Federal Departments; DOI's Division Chief of the Office of Recruitment and Retention Programs; DOD's Deputy Program Manager of the Executive Leadership Development Program, the Defense Civilian Emerging Leaders Program, and the Managerial and Supervisory Training Program. He started his federal career as a Diversity Recruiter intern in Mayaguez, PR and served as an HR Specialist in the DOD's Recruitment Assistance Division. Miguel is the former President of Young Government Leaders, a 12,000+ member national Affinity Group.

To access full details about MJA's background visit: [www.migueljoeyaviles.com/about](http://www.migueljoeyaviles.com/about)



***Stuart Bender***  
***Director of the Office of Ethics***  
***U.S. Department of Agriculture***

Stuart Bender serves as the Designated Agency Ethics Official (DAEO) and Director of the Office of Ethics at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). In 2016, Mr. Bender was awarded a Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Service in recognition of his work in significantly strengthening USDA's ethical compliance program. Building upon that success, in 2017, Mr. Bender led the creation of USDA's Ethics Mobile Application, a free, multimedia Ethics App available to the public by searching "USDA Ethics" on any smart phone's app store. In 2018, Mr. Bender led the creation of the Federal government's first animated Ethics Video, entitled: "Ethics Illustrated: How to Avoid Conflicts of Interest" publicly available on USDA's official YouTube page. In 2019, Mr. Bender led the upgrade of USDA's Ethics App to include a new interactive Ethics Game (The "Test Your Knowledge Game") as well as additional video ethics training resources created by his Office. In 2020, Mr. Bender led the creation of the Federal government's first animated Hatch Act Video, entitled: "The Hatch Act Illustrated and Explained" on USDA's official YouTube page. In 2021, Mr. Bender created the government's first avatar-based, diversity-focused, Ethics Training Game that combines space exploration, food sustainability, and Ethics in a unique partnership with NASA. Before joining USDA, Mr. Bender was the DAEO and Assistant General Counsel at the Executive Office of the President's Office of Management and Budget (OMB). He also served as the General Counsel and Ethics Officer for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum during its first decade. Mr. Bender has served as an attorney and Alternate DAEO in the Executive Office of the President's Office of Administration, and was a civilian procurement attorney with the U.S. Navy.



***Dr. Gladys Brignoni***  
***U.S. Coast Guard Deputy Commander and Chief Learning Officer***  
***U.S. Coast Guard***

Dr. Brignoni has over 20 years of experience in talent management, diversity, equity and inclusion, training, performance management and change management. As the U.S. Coast Guard's Chief Learning Officer and the Deputy Commander at Force Readiness Command, she leads the Coast Guard's efforts to ensure the delivery of mission-ready forces through superior performance-based training, career development, education, leader development, and readiness assessment. She has held various senior executive positions to include the Senior Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisor at the U.S. Coast Guard, Executive Director at the Center for Naval Intelligence, and Language and Cross-Cultural Training Specialist at the Peace Corps.



***Dexter R. Brooks***

***Associate Director of the Office of Federal Operations, Federal Sector Programs  
U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission***

Dexter R. Brooks, a member of the Senior Executive Service, is the Associate Director of the Office of Federal Operations, Federal Sector Programs, United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Washington, D.C. Federal Sector Programs has a unique role in assisting federal administrative agencies in the development of strategies designed to proactively prevent discrimination and allow federal employees to compete on a fair and level playing field.

Prior to this assignment, Mr. Brooks served as the Federal Training and Outreach Coordinator and Attorney Advisor within Federal Sector Programs. Mr. Brooks was responsible for establishing EEOC's Federal Sector Training Institute which provides a variety of fee-based courses to the federal sector EEO community. He also served as primary contact to the Commission's federal sector stakeholders providing hundreds of outreach sessions throughout the country.

Mr. Brooks' EEOC career began in 1998, as a staff attorney in the Office of Federal Operations Appellate Review Program. Before joining the EEOC, Mr. Brooks served as an Attorney Advisor for the United States Department of Labor in its Office of Administrative Law Judges. Mr. Brooks received his Juris Doctor from Howard University, and his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from North Carolina A&T State University.



***Honorable Gabriel Camarillo  
Under Secretary of the Army  
U.S. Department of the Army***

The Honorable Gabriel Camarillo was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on February 3, 2022 and sworn in as the 35th Under Secretary of the Army on February 8, 2022. As the Under Secretary of the Army, he is the Secretary of the Army's senior civilian assistant and principal adviser on matters related to the management and operation of the Army. He is also the Chief Management Officer of the Army.

Mr. Camarillo's prior career includes significant experience in law, government, national security and private industry. Mr. Camarillo previously served as Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Manpower & Reserve Affairs) where he was responsible for military and civilian personnel and reserve component matters for the Air Force. He previously also served as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics & Technology), helping to lead and supervise Army modernization programs, procurement, logistics and R&D investment.

His private sector experience includes legal practice at several law firms with emphasis in the areas of commercial litigation, campaign finance law, and government ethics. Mr. Camarillo also taught campaign finance law as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's McCourt School of Public Policy. Recently, Mr. Camarillo served as Senior Vice President at SAIC, where he led two business units for an engineering and IT services company.

Mr. Camarillo received a Bachelor of Arts in Government at Georgetown University and a law degree from Stanford University. He has two children, Ethan and Natalie, in Virginia.





***Brenda DePuy***  
***President***

***DePuy HR Associates***

Brenda DePuy has 50+ years of government leadership and HR experience with DOD, NIH, NGA, NSF, and OPM. She served as an Agency Officer with OPM in Executive Resources, advising agencies on their executive programs and administering the OPM Qualifications Review Boards (QRB) that approved the Executive Core Qualifications (ECQ) of agencies' tentative SES selections. She was published for diversity programs in the *OPM Exemplary Practices Digest*, one of 15 best practices in HR and authored an article in *The Public Manager*, summer 2015, "The Linchpins of Leadership." She is a graduate of American University Key Executive Program.

Brenda is the owner of DePuy HR Associates, providing Executive Leadership training/coaching and HR consulting to federal agencies. She has trained >7,000 executives in leadership competencies. She has helped >500 executive clients with executive career strategies and gaining/writing about Executive Core Qualifications; of those that needed OPM approval, 99.5% were successful. She has trained and/or coached ten SES Candidate Development Program Classes and coached Presidential Appointees/SESs and their staff.

Her clients include: DOD, DODIG, DOJ, DOL, DOC, DOE, DHS, DOS, DOT, DHHS, USDA, EPA, BEP, FNS, NASS, NRCS, FDA, VA, DHS, CBP, ICE, CIS, NGA, NIH PBGC, CNCS, FEC, NASA, NRC, HUD, NCPC, FERC, FLRA, CNCS, IMLS, Small Agency Council, PBGC, NASA, and USSS.

She has designed/presented five Capitol Hill seminars on Senior Executive Career Strategies. She is adjunct faculty for the Graduate School, designing/conducting interagency leadership sessions including sessions in the Executive Potential Program; the 2-week Washington Executive Seminar; and presented an international session for Taiwan senior executives. Designed the certification assessment process for the HUD Leadership Program and for the HUD Presidential Fellows Program - both classes received OPM certification. She has presented on a variety of Executive Development topics at Georgetown U., George Mason E-Learning Conference, American University, TOC, ASTD, ASPEN, IPMA MD, FEW Regional, 2 Excellence in Government Conferences, NAHFE 2013/14/15 and LULAC/OPM FTIP-2014-2021- as well as serving on teams of senior executives as a fellow flash mentor for both NAHFE and LULAC conferences.



***Honorable Mario A. Diaz***  
***Deputy Under Secretary of the Army***  
***Department of the Army***

Mr. Mario A. Diaz is currently serving as the Deputy Under Secretary of the Army, a principal advisor to the Secretary of the Army and the Under Secretary of the Army, focusing on key soldier and army policy initiatives identified by Army senior leadership.

From 2019-2020, Mr. Diaz served as a Senior Mentor and Highly Qualified Expert with the US Army Mission Command Training Program. Mr. Diaz advised commanders at the Army Corps, Division, and Brigade levels during exercises and provided expert knowledge in integrating capabilities and programs.

From September to December 2020, Mr. Diaz served as a Special Assistant for Outreach & Mentorship to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower & Reserve Affairs. Mr. Diaz was responsible for developing, leading, and managing plans and programs designed to ensure that the U.S. Army prioritizes talent acquisition commensurate with the demographics (race, gender, ethnicity) of the American population.



***Dr. Terri A. Dickerson***  
***US Coast Guard Director of Civil Rights***  
***U.S. Coast Guard***

Dr. Dickerson has been a member of the government's Senior Executive Service since 2000, and is the U.S. Coast Guard's Civil Rights Director, a position in which she leads equity programs for its 58,000-member workforce. Prior to this position, she was Assistant Staff Director at the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights where she led teams investigating and producing reports for Congress and the American public on issues across the civil rights spectrum including voting, equality in education, access to health care, and equal employment. Dr. Dickerson is also an adjunct professor for the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution, one of the nation's few schools dedicated to social justice.



***Cynthia (Cin-dee) D. Dunn***  
***Director of the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Tax Exempt and Government***  
***Entities***  
***Internal Revenue Service***

Cynthia D. Dunn currently serves as the Director of the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Tax Exempt and Government Entities, within the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Cynthia has held this position in Washington, DC since 2004. She started her federal government career in 1980 as a GS-01 Clerk Typist under the Stay-in-School Program. She began her career in the field of Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity in 1992. Before her exciting career in the IRS, Cynthia also held several employment positions at agencies such as Export-Import Bank, Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Defense. Cynthia attended the University of Maryland - College Park and the European Division - Nuernberg, West Germany. She honorably holds multiple life memberships with the following employee organizations: National Image, Inc., Blacks in Government, Federally Employed Women, Society of American Indian Government Employees, Federal Asian Pacific American Council, and Deaf in Government.

Cynthia is a proud recipient of the 2018 “Woman of the Year” award given by the National Image, Inc., the recipient of the 2018 “Champion for Diversity” award given by Federally Employed Women (FEW), and the recipient of the 2019 “Spirit” award given by the Society of American Indian Government Employees. Cynthia resides in Waldorf, MD. She has two sons and five grandchildren.

In addition to Cynthia Dunn’s multiple years in the federal government, her hard work and dedication has given her the opportunity to present and provide resourceful information for those who are looking for guidance in their careers. Cynthia has conducted training sessions. Those who attend the sessions will gain amazing insight on how to be successful in the workplace.



***Maribel Duran***  
***Chief of Staff***

***United States Department of Agriculture***

Duran recently served as Managing Director for Equity and Inclusion for the Aspen Institute, as well as Chief of Staff for its Leadership Division. From 2018-2019, she was co-chair of the Institute's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council. Previously, Duran served eight years in the Obama Administration, first as Special Assistant to U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, then as Chief of Staff for the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics, and ultimately as Chief of Staff for the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. She began her career at the Chicago Public Schools. She was the first Latina board trustee at Southern New Hampshire University, a New America Latino National Security and Foreign Policy Next Generation Leader, and a Center for American Progress U.S.-Mexico Leaders Initiative Member. She holds a bachelor's from Southern New Hampshire University.



***Joseph Gonzalez***  
***Special Agent in Charge***  
***Federal Bureau of Investigation***

Mr. Gonzalez began his FBI career as a special agent in 2003 and reported to the New York Field Office to investigate white-collar crime. He was also a member of New York's Underwater Search and Evidence Response Team and its Rapid Deployment Team.

In 2006, Mr. Gonzalez transferred to the San Juan Field Office for the first of several assignments in the office. He initially investigated organized crime, international drug trafficking and money laundering, and violent gangs. He was also a crisis negotiator and a crisis management coordinator. Mr. Gonzalez was promoted in 2011 to supervisory special agent of San Juan's Criminal Enterprise Squad and served as the coordinator for the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force. In 2012, he became supervisor of the Public Corruption/Civil Rights squad, which was responsible for dismantling networks of corrupt law enforcement officers throughout Puerto Rico.

Mr. Gonzalez was named chief of the Public Corruption Unit in the Criminal Investigative Division at FBI Headquarters in Washington in 2014. He also served as the acting section chief of the Public Corruption Civil Rights Section.

In 2016, Mr. Gonzalez was promoted to assistant special agent in charge of the Special Operations Branch of the Newark Field Office in New Jersey. As an ASAC, he had oversight of surveillance and aviation operations, human intelligence, security, language services, the undercover program, and several other programs.

Mr. Gonzalez was promoted in 2017 to chief of the Operational Support Section in the International Operations Division at Headquarters, where he had oversight of several units. Prior to his selection as Special Agent in Charge of the San Juan Field Office, Mr. Gonzalez was appointed legal attache in Mexico City in 2018, serving as the primary liaison to the FBI's Mexican counterparts.



***Migdalia Gonzalez***

***Office of Civil Rights Hispanic Employment Program Manager  
Federal Aviation Agency***

Migdalia Gonzalez is the newest member of the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) Office of Civil Rights, as the Hispanic Employee Program Manager. Charged with strengthening Hispanic outreach, employment and planning. She serves as a resource for information related to expanding and empowering future employees with the FAA. Prior to her joining the FAA, she held a leadership position in the US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Housing as the Supervisory Training Officer. In this role, she managed a team dedicated to the development, execution and delivery of employee career and leadership development initiatives for the entire program office. Migdalia also served as a Housing Recovery lead for the department when disasters occurred. In this role, she worked diligently to help individuals and families impacted by disasters obtain the services they needed to recover. In her role as a Housing Recovery lead, she implemented and executed various initiatives throughout the country resulting in survivors obtaining assistance. Because of her efforts, the team received the Gears of Government Award for their outreach efforts. In addition, she was the lead representative of the special emphasis employee group the “Latino Network” where she developed training and leadership programs for the entire department.

She made the successful transition from the private to the public sector. Preceding public sector service, Migdalia held several senior level positions in the real estate and mortgage industries. She was a Vice President for the Consumer Real Estate Division at Bank of America where she facilitated national initiatives to expand homeownership for emerging markets.

Migdalia is responsible for creating the first Latino-owned real estate Franchise, UNICasa Franchising where she served as the Vice President for Business Development. Under her leadership, she expanded the franchise from 13 offices to 23 throughout the country, doubling sales within the first year of operating as a franchise.

She is a Leadership Coach for the non-profit Braven, coaching and preparing college students on their career development. She is a master trainer and motivational speaker. She has delivered training to both the public and private sector organizations such as the USDA, DOJ, HUD, CBP/DHS, and LULAC- Federal Training Institute to name a few. She is committed to the development of others to create a more diverse and inclusive community for all.



***Milton Hunt***  
***Consultant***  
***Milton Hunt***

For more than 30 years, Milton Hunt has lived all that he teaches and speaks in his Employee Training, Motivational Speaking, and Employee Coaching services and programs. Hunt is a Native American, a member of the Lumbee tribe. Having embraced his heritage, the principles, methods, and messages he utilizes and shares with clients and audiences are a blend of both professional expertise and personal experience. Hunt recognizes vulnerabilities among populations and unifies cultural and generational differences among individuals and groups of all ages. Those who engage with Hunt easily identify with him and they sense, “He understands me.” And he does. Hunt has trained and coached in the corporate, government and private sectors. He also is a keynote and motivational speaker, an “edu-tainer,” known for delivering powerful and proven ideas in informative, captivating, and exciting ways. In all endeavors, Hunt performs with high energy and immense dedication.





***Javier E. Inclán***  
***Deputy Office Head, Office of Equity and Civil Rights***  
***National Science Foundation***

Mr. Inclán currently serves as the Deputy Office Head, Office of Equity and Civil Rights at the National Science Foundation (NSF). Responsibilities under his purview are complaints processing, ADR, reasonable accommodations, workforce training and development in the areas of EEO and diversity, workforce analysis, and diversity/special emphasis initiatives. He previously served as the Assistant Director for the United States Marshals Service, Management Support Division where he provided oversight for the Office of Construction Management, the Office of Environmental, Occupational Safety, and Health, the Office of Program Services, the Office of Support Management, and the Business Integration Center.

Mr. Inclán joined the SES ranks in November 2016 when he was hired as the Deputy Division Director for Administrative Services at NSF. In this role he was responsible for facilities and property management, physical security, safety and occupational health, records management, and NSF's websites. He subsequently served as the Acting Division Director for Administrative Services, Acting Division Director for Human Resource Management, and Deputy Office Head for the Office of Information and Resource Management.

Prior to joining NSF in 2016, Mr. Inclán worked at the U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, and for the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development, and Engineering Center.

Mr. Inclán received his B.A. degree in History from William Paterson College in 1995 and earned his master's degree in Administrative Science from Fairleigh Dickinson University in 2007. He is also a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute's Leadership for a Democratic Society program and is currently working towards a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Interdisciplinary Leadership from Creighton University.



***Mercedes N. Kirkland-Doyle***  
***Chief Executive Officer and Lead Facilitator***  
***Mercedes Naomi D&I Consulting***

Mercedes N. Kirkland-Doyle is a lover of life, family, community engagement and being the change she would like to see. She is the mother of two active teenagers, an Army Veteran, a humanitarian, transformative-creative-servant leader, and an advocate for equity and inclusion. She has over 20 years of Federal experience, deeply rooted in supply logistics, talent acquisition, policy, compliance, human capital development, instructional development, Equal Employment Opportunity, equity, diversity and employee engagement. She holds a M.S. in Management, Yale School of Management certificates in Women in Leadership, Fostering Inclusion and Diversity and Accelerated Management, a member of Leadership Fairfax Institute Class of 2022, and is in the process of pursuing her PhD in Conflict Analysis and Resolution.

She has served in Oklahoma, The Republic of South Korea, Florida, Texas, Georgia, West Virginia, Nebraska, and Washington, D.C. She became a Civilian in 2008 with the Department of Defense: Navy, Africa Region, in Naples, Italy and worked for The Warrior Transition Battalion, The Department of Veterans Health Administration, The Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Department of Labor and The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

In 2015, she formed The Good News Community Kitchen (TGNCK) and founded the S01(c)3, non-profit organization, which was established to rebuild and strengthen communities by fighting hunger one meal at a time in Northern Virginia, Washington, D.C. Metropolitan, Maryland and South Carolina. With a focus on assisting those in transition, the unsheltered homeless and school-aged children, TGNCK operates to accomplish its mission by focusing on its Core Four programs: Mobile Meals, Hygiene Heroes, Trends to Transition and Warm Winters. She has since launched a scholarship program for students of single-parent families and/or emancipated, Excellence through Exposure STEM program, and a leadership development program for middle school girls called Leading Ladies. With no prior fundraising experience, she has raised over \$500,000, led a diverse team of game changers to make impactful deliverables within several communities and has provided over 18,000 people with temporary relief from food insecurity. A few awards include, The Leadership Center of Excellence 40 Under 40 Honoree, National Daughters of the American Revolution Citizen of the Year Award, the Washington D.C. Chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Citizen of the Year, inaugural winner of Rachael Ray's Feed It Forward winner, and was named Keeper of the Community by

The Joint-Base Myer-Henderson Hall Gospel Service. She is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.



*Anthony Lopez*

*Founder, CEO and Managing Partner*

*L&L Associates, a Leadership & Management Consulting Firm*

Tony López is an experienced C-Suite and Board executive with a reputation as an inspirational, multicultural and bilingual leader. López has a strong track record of success in global President level leadership positions in publicly traded companies with >\$1Billion P&L responsibility. He is recognized as a strategic thinker and people developer with a record for bringing about positive and empowering change while driving breakthrough results.

López is the CEO/Founder for L&L Associates, a Leadership & Management Consulting Firm. He is Chairman-Emeritus of the Board of PROSPANICA and served on the PROSPANICA Foundation Board until December 2019. He currently sits as a member of the Executive Advisory Board for NexPhase Capital, a New York City based Private Equity Company. He also serves on the Board of Advisors for MAS Global Consulting and CulturIntel. He began his professional career as a military officer and served as a Captain in the Air Force. He joined Johnson & Johnson in 1991. While at J&J he held leadership/GM positions in Engineering, Operations, Sales, and Marketing. He also served as Chairperson for the Hispanic Organization For Leadership & Achievement. From 2009 to 2011 he was the GM for Respiratory Systems in CareFusion, and from 2011 – 2017 he served as President, Ansell Healthcare. In 2017 he was named CEO & Managing Director of AZZUR GROUP.

López is a sought-after speaker and expert on leadership and management topics. He has presented to audiences throughout the globe, and thousands of people have attended his presentations. He is the author of “The Legacy Leader (1st and 2nd editions)”, “Breakthrough Thinking: The Legacy Leader’s Role In Driving Innovation”, “The Leader’s Lobotomy: The Legacy Leader Avoids Promotion Induced Amnesia”, “The Leader In the Mirror; The Legacy Leader’s Critical Self-Assessment”, “The Diversity Engagement Model: From Awareness to Action” (published in The Journal for Hispanic Business Research, October 2008), and “The Legacy Leader As Superhero: LEGACYWOMAN”.

López holds a BS in Electrical Engineering, an MS in Engineering Management, and is a graduate of the Department of Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute. He is a member of the Latino Corporate Director’s Association and the National Association of Corporate Directors where he holds the Governance Fellow designation.



***Glorimar Maldonado***  
***Diversity Program Manager***  
***U.S. Patent and Trademark Office***

Glorimar Maldonado is the Diversity Program Manager for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at the U.S. Department of Commerce in Alexandria, VA. In this role, she provides policy review, technical guidance, data-driven analyses, and strategic leadership to recruit, retain and engage a prepared, diverse and sustainable workforce. Further, as an instructor, she conducts employment and professional/leadership development workshops and K-12 activities that promote careers in mathematics and the sciences.

Previously, Ms. Maldonado was the Interim Deputy Director for Talent Acquisition and the Chief Recruitment Officer for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In this role, she developed, reviewed and implemented policies, programs and initiatives to streamline and improve federal hiring and retention practices, promote Diversity and Inclusion, and provide employment and professional development training to federal employees in various agencies. Ms. Maldonado has also been a senior advisor for the Strategic Programs Office at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where she developed, implemented, and managed Hispanic recruitment and outreach programs and initiatives. Additionally, prior to joining the CDC, she was the chief of staff for the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. In this role, she supervised the daily operations of the office, including strategic planning, social media campaigns, management of staff, and the development and implementation of Presidential outreach programs.

Ms. Maldonado holds a B.A. in English, history and psychology and an M.S in leadership.



***Patrick Malone, PhD***  
***Director, Key Executive Leadership Programs***  
***American University***

Dr Malone is the Director, Key Executive Leadership Programs at American University. He is a frequent guest lecturer on kindness, gratitude, emotional intelligence, compassion, ethics, mindfulness, and leadership at various organizations, professional associations, and universities including the Fulbright Scholars Program. His research and teaching interests include human motivation, kindness, leadership, ethics, and organizational behavior. He is also one of the few researchers in the country certified in the Subject/Object Methodology developed at Harvard. Dr Malone is a retired Navy Captain. While in the Navy, Patrick served in a number of leadership and policy roles including as a professor of biometrics and preventive medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences; Academic Director; and Dean of Academics for Navy Medicine. His most recent publications include: “Embrace the Next Normal. But Before You Do.....,” “*The Way Leaders Think*,” “*The Trusting Leader*,” “*Selfies in the Workplace*,” “*Kindness and Survival of the Fittest*,” “*Go Ahead, Laugh – Why Humor Makes for a Better Workplace*,” and “*VulnerABILITY - Can Managers Benefit from Extreme Exposure?*” His TED Talk, “*Thinking about Time*,” is available at <http://tedxtalks.ted.com> and his co-edited book, *The Handbook of Federal Leadership and Administration*, was published in November 2016. His co-authored book *Leading with Love and Laughter – Letting Go and Getting Real at Work* was released in Spring 2021. His new book *Emotional Intelligence in Talent Development* was released in October 2021.



***Lorena Orozco McElwain***  
***Equal Employment Opportunity Officer***  
***Drug Enforcement Administration***  
***FTI Advisory Board Member***

Ms. Lorena McElwain serves as the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer for the Drug Enforcement Administration where she leads the agency's civil rights, diversity, equity and inclusion programs. She is a transformational purpose driven leader who leverages a visionary mindset and a data driven approach to navigate civil rights and cultural landscapes for immediate and long-term program impact and success.

Prior to her current role, Ms. McElwain served as Assistant Deputy Secretary in the Department of Education's Office of English Language Acquisition, where she led efforts to remove equal access barriers for the nation's five million English learners and shifted national dialogue about bilingualism toward an asset-based perspective, emphasizing language as a dimension of American diversity.

Ms. McElwain joined the career Senior Executive Service in 2010 and has served in various executive civil rights and administrative positions, overseeing the execution compliance of agency budgets up to \$60B, leading offices with a staff up to 400 employees, and managing administrative functions serving up to 110,000 employees. Highlights of Ms. Ms. McElwain's senior executive appointments include Chief of Staff in USDA's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Director of Business Management and Planning for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and Deputy Assistant Administrator for the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service Office of Management.

Ms. McElwain is a first-generation college graduate, holding a master's and bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Texas at El Paso. Since 2008, she has served as Executive Board Member of the League of United Latin American Citizens Federal Training Institute, a partnership with OPM and more than 60 Federal agencies to diversify the pool of executive candidates by strengthening leadership competencies in OPM's five executive core qualifications.



***Frank Montalvo***  
***United States District Judge***  
***Western District of Texas - El Paso Division***

The Honorable Frank Montalvo's judicial career began in 1995 as a State District Judge in Bexar County, Texas where he served until 2003. He joined the federal bench in August 2003 following a unanimous confirmation by the United States Senate. The American Bar Association (ABA) Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary awarded him a ***unanimously well-qualified*** rating, their highest endorsement.

An active participant in the legal community, Judge Montalvo has authored various legal articles and spoken at legal education seminars in the United States, Laos, Malaysia, Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, Chile, Thailand, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates. In August 2009, Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., of the Supreme Court of the United States, appointed Judge Montalvo to the International Judicial Relations Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States where he served until September of 2015. Describing Judge Montalvo's work on the Committee, Chief Justice Roberts wrote "your long-term efforts with the Colombian judiciary were instrumental in helping it establish court procedures to address the claims of approximately one million victims of forceful land seizures."

In 2014, Judge Montalvo created the first pre-trial diversion program in the Texas federal judiciary. The program, known as Adelante, promotes a law-abiding and drug-free lifestyle. Upon a defendant's successful completion of the program, the pending charges are dismissed. Prior to initiating this program, Judge Montalvo implemented the only post-incarceration program in the Texas federal judiciary, known as Sendero, to assist individuals in the reentry process. Although small programs, their success is undisputed—there is a zero-percent recidivism rate amongst their graduates. The success of the programs was recognized by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation when, in 2021, it awarded a two-year grant to the El Paso nonprofit that works with Judge Montalvo in these programs.

Judge Montalvo earned a bachelor's degree with honors in physics and mathematics from the University of Puerto Rico. Thereafter, he earned a Master of Science in



bioengineering, from the University of Michigan, and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from Wayne State University Law School.



***Victor Cora Nazario  
Co-Owner and COO***

***SOAR Community Network, LLC***

Victor Cora Nazario oversees the day-to-day operations of the organization. He is responsible for ensuring that SOAR Community Network's technology systems and work processes stay efficient and innovative. With over 25 years of experience in Information Technology and certifications in Talent Optimization, Victor works with clients to ensure their strategic objectives are met by creating a culture of Compassionate Leaders and Cohesive Teams in order to form a Collaborative Culture (C3).

Originally from Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, Victor started his career as an Airman in the Air Force as a Network Administrator for the Andrews Office Network. He then moved on to work as a Senior Network Administrator for government contractors, software development, construction and a non-profit organization. His consulting career started by creating a Managed Services Provider that specialized in supporting small to mid-sized companies by managing their IT function. His duties enabled him to develop technicians, create engagements, handle billing and the relationship with clients and prospects with the goal of growing the IT services practice. His work included planning, budgeting, vendor and IT Department management.

Now Victor works with clients to ensure that their Culture is aligned with their purpose and values. This work includes strategic mapping, running behavioral strength workshops, objective mapping retreats and deploying ideation campaigns. Victor has certifications in ITIL, Talent Optimization and is fluent in Spanish and English.



***Maria Mercedes Olivieri***  
***Diversity Consultant***  
***Mercedes Olivieri Associates***

Mercedes Olivieri is a Federal retiree who has embarked on new professional adventures. To begin with, she has several decades of experience in public service at the Federal and state levels in various fields. Her most recent field of expertise was diversity and inclusion, where she had responsibility for addressing Federal-level diversity and inclusion issues ranging from analyzing under-representation of particular communities to partnering with affinity groups and conducting training on Special Emphasis Programs and multicultural communication.

As the Assistant Director for Federal Diversity at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), Ms. Olivieri led a national program to identify the need for, obtain, manage, and report on the diversity of the largest workforce in the world, the Federal workforce. She worked closely with senior management at scores of Federal departments and agencies as well as with national Federal-employee affinity groups, including the National Hispanic Employment Program Council, National Image, Asian Pacific American Council, Blacks in Government, American Indian Science and Engineering Society, and Federally Employed Women, among others. On a smaller scale, she managed diversity and Special Emphasis Programs at individual agencies—including as Special Emphasis Program Manager for both the Hispanic and the American Indian Employment Programs at EPA—where she also worked closely with senior management and with employee affinity groups. Her first Federal career, as Evaluator/Auditor with the Government Accountability Office (GAO) gave her the opportunity to showcase her skills as both analyst and trainer.

Because of her professional accomplishments, Ms. Olivieri was selected as one of “Elite Hispanic Women of 2002,” by Hispanic Business Magazine. She has received numerous awards from Federal agencies and non-profit organizations.

Ms. Olivieri is an alumna of the 2000 National Hispana Leadership Institute (NHLI). She obtained her B.A. in Secondary Education (Spanish and French) from the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) and has done graduate work in Journalism at UPR and in Public Administration at George Mason University. She is a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute (FEI) and of the leadership development programs at Harvard University’s JFK School of Government and the Center for Creative Leadership (CCL). She was the Director of Federal Programs at LULAC. She has been a keynote speaker and trainer on diversity issues before several Federal agencies, professional organizations, private sector organizations, academic institutions, and national conferences. She has partnered with other organizations, such as the National Association for Public Administration (NAPA), to conduct diversity and inclusion studies of Federal agencies.



***Mali Phonpadith***  
***Founder & CEO***

***SOAR Community Network, LLC***

Mali Phonpadith is the Founder and CEO of SOAR Community Network (SCN), Certified Talent Optimization Leader and Inclusive Behavioral Inventory (IBI) certified consultant. Her firm helps organizational leaders map their strategic priorities and build C3 cultures where **Compassionate** leaders thrive, **Cohesive** teams drive results and employees **Collaborate** and innovate effectively. Mali is Cofounder of SOAR Nebula, a global resource hub for transcendent leaders.

She is a TEDx and keynote speaker and twice a #1 international bestselling author. Her work in the SMB and nonprofit communities has rewarded her with many accolades. She was chosen as a Belief Team Partner through Values Partnership and the Oprah Winfrey Network. She has been nominated for the March of Dimes' Heroines of Washington D.C. Award and twice nominated for the Women of the Year Award by NEW – Network Executive Women.

Mali speaks English, Lao, Spanish and Thai. She is a business coach for Connectpreneur, consultant for the Latino Economic Development Center, Reviewer for the Catalog for Philanthropy, Advisory Board Member of Din Din, Inc., DC Chapter Director for the Association for Enterprise Growth and Board Member of the Lao Heritage Foundation.

She is a four-time author, including *A Million Fireflies*, her memoir about her voyage from war-torn Laos to America. She has been featured on Huffington Post, Entrepreneur.com, Asian Fortune Newspaper, WJLA DC, Radio Free Asia, WHUR Radio, Voice of America, Better Business Bureau's Trusted Magazine and numerous internet radio programs and global podcasts.

Her list of clients includes HUD, George Washington University, Latino Economic Development Center, Crooked Media, Loudoun County Parks and Recreation, University of Michigan Ross School of Business, Flaherty Family Foundation, Blueprint Financial, Social Impact, Clements Worldwide, Industrious and many others.



***Dr. Jimmy Ortiz***  
***Manager, International Postal Relations***  
***United States Postal Service***

Dr. Jimmy Ortiz is the Manager, International Postal Relations for the United States Postal Service (USPS) in Washington, DC.

Dr. Ortiz started his career as a Letter Carrier on the night shift in New York City. He has held numerous operational, managerial, and business development positions in New York, Puerto Rico, and Washington, DC.

In 2009, Dr. Ortiz was endorsed by the Department of State and the USPS and took a leave of absence to serve as the Regional Coordinator for Latin America for the United Nations Universal Postal Union in San Jose, Costa Rica.

Dr. Ortiz is Lean Six Sigma Green Belt certified and holds several degrees and certificates in Accounting, International Administration, International Protocol & Business Etiquette, Latin American & Hemispheric Studies, and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Workplace.



*Nicholas Reyes*

*Director, Western Hemisphere, Office of International Affairs  
Federal Aviation Administration*

Nicholas Reyes is the FAA Director, Western Hemisphere, Office of International Affairs (API) with base in Panama City, Panama. As the Director, Western Hemisphere Office, he is responsible for promoting U.S. interests and advancing civil aviation safety, security and efficiency. He plays a lead role in the development of international aviation policy and serves as the chief advocate for the U.S. aviation interests in the region. Mr. Reyes works directly with the top U.S. and foreign civil aviation officials and serves as the agency's chief spokesperson at major international aviation forums to articulate and advance FAA policy.

Mr. Reyes served as the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Acting Deputy Director, Office of Safety Standards, Deputy Director, Office of Foundational Business and Division Manager of both Southwest and Western-Pacific Regions in the Flight Standards Service. In this role, he managed more than 1100 employees. Previously, he served as Manager of the Southwest Certificate Management office and the Dallas Fort-Worth International Field office. Mr. Reyes is a former U.S. Airways and American Eagle airline pilot. He served in the military as a Flight Examiner/Pilot with the Puerto Rico Air National Guard and the Texas Army National Guard.



***Monserrate C. Roman***  
***Program Manager***

***National Aeronautics and Space Administration***

Monsi Roman graduated with a BS in Biology in 1985 from the University of Puerto Rico, where she trained as an environmental microbiologist. In 1992 she graduated with a Master Degree in Environmental Microbiology from the University of Alabama in Huntsville, after completing a study on *Yersinia pestis* toxin release mechanisms.

Ms Roman joined NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) in 1989, where she has strategically moved to positions that have increased her responsibilities in the Agency. Positions include: 1) NASA's Chief Microbiologist in the group that designed the water and air systems keeping the crew alive in the International Space Station (ISS); 2) Project Manager for NASA's next generation of Environmental Control and Life Support Systems (ECLSS); 3) Agency Project Manager for the design and development of air and environmental monitors systems needed to keep a crew alive on a journey to moon, Mars and beyond; 4) Program Executive and Program Manager (PM) of the Centennial Challenges Program (CCP) at NASA Headquarters, the agency's multimillion dollar technology development program; 4) NASA Branch Chief for the NASA Centennial Challenge team; 5) NASA Commercial Crew Program, leading the efforts to design and develop a plan for the participation of NASA employees in human-tended technology demonstrations and/or research in commercial suborbital flights. If successful, in the future any qualified NASA employee will be able to fly with their payload in Blue Origin or Virgin Galactic suborbital vehicles.

Ms. Roman has more than 70 technical publications in the area of space microbiology, flight hardware, biofilm, microbial monitoring, life support systems and crowdsourcing. Her other awards include: Silver Letter Award from the International Latino Women Congress, Distinguished Puerto Rican Heritage Month Award, and Grand Marshall of the Puertorrican Parade (Chicago). In addition, she has received many NASA Certificates of Appreciation, NASA Performance Award Certificates for Outstanding Performance, on the Spot Awards, NASA Group Achievement Awards, Director Commendation Awards in addition to the prestigious Innovation Award, NASA Space Flight Awareness Honoree Award and the Snoopy Award. The Snoopy Awardees are selected by astronauts to acknowledge efforts instrumental in developing program modifications that increase quality, reliability, safety, efficiency, or performance.

Ms. Roman understands first-hand the power of mentoring and providing significant science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) learning experiences to the new generation, as she was the product of many who provided her guidance in those areas. She believes this is critical for the next generation of humans that will be responsible for future space missions while also helping advance critical technologies needed on Earth (like power, food availability, clean water, etc ). Ms. Roman was chosen as one of 12 women from diverse backgrounds, selected for a 2021 book to inspire young girls, called 'Wonder Women of Science'. Her most recent publication is a chapter in the book that was just published by Wiley: In Space Manufacturing and Resources: Earth and Planetary Exploration Applications.

She has collaborated/participated in the development of, as well as encouraging public participation in, many NASA proposals for universities and groups that have successfully applied to NASA Space Grants, EPSCOR and others. She has also developed and supported various museum proposals and development of NASA theme inspired exhibits targeted for STEM outreach. Monsi Roman has been married to her high school sweetheart for 37 years, Jose Roman, who is a NASA engineer. They have 3 adult sons that have chosen careers in STEM and 2 daughters in-law that are also part of the STEM community.





***Nydia Roman Albertorio***  
***Acquisition Group Manager***  
***General Services Administration***

Nydia Roman Albertorio serves as Acquisition Group Manager at the Federal Systems Integration and Management Center (FEDSIM) as part of the Office of Assisted Acquisition Services within the Federal Acquisition Service of the General Services Administration (GSA). She provides acquisition management to a \$2 billion portfolio for information technology systems and emergency response managed services to U.S. Government agencies.

Nydia began her federal career in 2006 as part of the Department of Defense Student Training and Academic Recruiter (STAR) program. Her acquisition career started joining the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) in 2007 performing contract administration for more than thirty (30) contracts for research and development, procurement of equipment, supplies and engineering services.

Nydia earned two Bachelors in Business Administration (Human Resources Management and Industrial Management) at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus and holds a MBA degree in Organizational Leadership from Virginia Tech Pamplin College of Business. Born and raised in Puerto Rico, she now resides in Lorton, VA with her husband Angel Calderon and is the proud mother of Yirehi and Jesus Daniel.



***José E. Sánchez***  
***Deputy Director of Research and Development***  
***U.S. Army Corps of Engineers***

Mr. José E. Sánchez was selected to the Senior Executive Service in August 2013. As Deputy Director of Research and Development and Deputy Chief Scientist for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in December 2017, he assists in developing policy, setting direction and providing oversight for the Corps' research and development program conducted for approximately 700 sponsors and advises the Chief of Engineers on matters of science and technology. The R&D program totals over \$1.5B annually and supports the Department of Defense and other federal and state agencies in military and civil works projects as well as foreign, state and local governments.

Mr. Sánchez develops and directs strategic initiatives to identify, focus, and prioritize technology directions to support a myriad of efforts. He formulates and interprets legislative initiatives relating to technology development and implementation requirements for both existing and emerging missions. He identifies and fosters strategic relationships focused on broad S&T initiatives that engage with Army, DoD, other government agencies, industry, academia and international partners.

Prior to this assignment, Mr. Sánchez was the Director of the Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory where he led a team of more than 250 researchers, support staff and contractors and was responsible for planning, directing, and coordinating a multi-million dollar research program in the specialized areas of coastal and hydraulics. He has written numerous technical publications on navigation locks, hydropower dams, surface and groundwater hydrology, computational fluid dynamics, coastal engineering, and infrastructure asset management and has served as a consultant and technical advisor in several international research efforts.

Most recently, he served as the acting Director of Contingency Operations and Homeland Security for USACE. Following hurricanes Irma and Maria, Mr. Sanchez was temporarily deployed to Puerto Rico to direct the power restoration efforts on the island in support of FEMA's multi-billion dollar mission assignment.



***Felicita “Feli” Solá-Carter***  
***Former SSA Assistant Deputy Commissioner***  
***Human Resources***  
***FTI Advisory Board Member***

Prior to her retirement in January 2009, Feli served as Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Human Resources and Deputy Chief Human Capital Officer of the Social Security Administration (SSA). She joined SSA upon graduation from the College of Mount St. Vincent. Her career began in New York City, moving rapidly into managerial positions and in 1991, to the Office of the Commissioner in Baltimore as Senior Advisor to the Principal Deputy Commissioner. In 1998, as Associate Commissioner for the Office of Training, she became the first Puerto Rican woman appointed to the Senior Executive Service at SSA. She is the recipient of both a Presidential Rank Award of Meritorious Executive and a Presidential Rank Award of Distinguished Executive.

Feli serves as an Executive Coach and as a Strategic Advisor to Government Executives with the Partnership for Public Service. She also serves as a facilitator and instructor on leadership for government agencies and non-profit organizations.

Leadership in a variety of community organizations and boards led to Feli’s 2014 induction to the Howard County, Maryland Women’s Hall of Fame. In April 2016, she was appointed by the Governor of Maryland to the Board of Trustees of Howard Community College, a 2019 Baldrige Performance Excellence Award recipient. She was also selected as a Top 100 Women in Maryland in 2008 and 2021.



***Patricia L. St. Clair***

***Assistant Director, Training and Outreach Division, Federal Sector Programs  
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)***

Patricia L. St. Clair is the Assistant Director of Federal Sector Programs, Training and Outreach Division, at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's Office of Federal Operations. Ms. St. Clair oversees the development, implementation and delivery of anti-discrimination and diversity training and outreach initiatives for the federal government and stakeholders. Prior to serving as Assistant Director, Ms. St. Clair was a Senior Attorney Advisor in the Agency Oversight Division of Federal Sector Programs which oversees federal agencies EEO and affirmative employment programs. As a legal advisor to federal agencies, Ms. St. Clair provided regulatory guidance on anti-discrimination laws and evaluated federal agencies' performance to ensure effective and efficient implementation of EEO and Diversity programs.

Possessing over twenty years legal experience specializing in equal employment opportunity, affirmative employment, labor and diversity in both the private and government sector, Ms. St. Clair is a seasoned professional in employment and labor law, with specific expertise in employment discrimination, labor management relations and diversity and inclusion management. Ms. St. Clair presents on behalf of the Commission at EEO and Diversity conferences, symposiums and trainings in the federal, state and local governments as well as private sector.

Ms. St. Clair is a graduate of Tulane University School of Law and State University of New York College at Oswego. She is an active member of the American Bar Association and the New York State Bar Association.



***Zina B. Sutch, PhD***  
***Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Civil Rights***  
***Small Business Administration***

Dr. Sutch serves as an Assistant Administrator at the Small Business Administration, leading Diversity, Inclusion and Civil Rights efforts for SBA employees and Small Business Owners across the country. She previously led government-wide policies and guidance to assist Federal agencies in building diverse workforces and inclusive and engaged organizational cultures that leverage diversity in her role as Director of Diversity and Inclusion and then Deputy Associate Director of Outreach, Diversity Inclusion at the Office of Personnel Management. Prior to serving in this capacity, Dr. Sutch held positions in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) leading the Office of the Executive Secretariat and the Office of Diversity, Recruitment and Work/Life. Dr. Sutch started her education career as a classroom teacher and moved into leadership positions serving as Education Director then School Principal and Director in the private and public school sectors. She has held faculty appointments at George Mason University, Bowie State University, and currently teaches for American University's Key Executive Leadership Programs. Her most recent publications include: "Want to Develop Your Leaders? Change the End Goal," "What Jerry Seinfeld Taught Me About Employee Engagement," "How to Lead a Loving Organization," "Overriding our Instincts to Become Caring Leaders," and "All You Need is Love: How to Nurture Compassionate Love in the Workplace." Her co-authored book *Leading with Love and Laughter – Letting Go and Getting Real at Work* was released in Spring 2021.



***William Torruellas***  
***Senior Attorney Advisor, Federal Sector Programs***  
***Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)***

William Torruellas is the Senior Attorney Advisor for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Federal Sector Programs (FSP) where he works on developing and implementing EEOC-wide strategies, policies, plans and goals and objectives to ensure federal agency compliance with EEO laws. William also acted as a point of contact for a diverse pool of stakeholders including internal contract Administrative Judges, staff and Administrative Judges of numerous Agencies with GERA cases, EEOC's trainers, and OFO external vendors, among others.

William joined EEOC in 2001 as an Appeal Review attorney and has extensive experience working with the Office of Federal Operations including as an Attorney Advisor with FSP and in a detailed position as an Assistant Director in the Control and Compliance Division. William also previously served as an Assistant US Attorney for the District of Columbia.

William began his legal career as tax and corporate litigation associate in the law firm of Goldman Antonetti Cordova. William is a graduate of Georgetown Law Center and has a B.A./MBA degree from the University of Puerto Rico. In addition, William is a member of the DC Bar and volunteers with the Pro Bono Center where he provided brief legal information to small businesses owners in economically disadvantaged areas.



*Alex Tremble*  
*CEO and President*

*Tremble Influence Academy; [The Alex Tremble Show](#)*

**Alex D. Tremble** is an award-winning speaker, author, and leadership expert who has over 10 years of experience coaching and advising some of our nation's most senior level government leaders. He is also the host of [The Alex Tremble Show](#), which brings together successful executives from across the world to mentor executive, and aspiring executive, leaders with the strategies needed to increase their influence and achieve greater career success. Some pasts include:

- [National Republican Committee, National Spokesperson - Paris Derrard](#)
- [U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Acting Director - Dave Uejio](#)
- [Former Department of Defense, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Middle East - Mick Mulroy](#)
- [Senior Vice President of Marketing & Communications, Navy Federal Credit Union - Pam Piligain](#)

Alex began his career managing three government-wide senior leadership development programs, a government-wide mentoring program, and a high-potential mentoring program for individuals seeking to rise up the leadership ranks with the U.S. Department of the Interior. He then quickly went on to establish the Tremble Influence Academy, while publishing two bestselling books ("[Reaching Senior Leadership: 10 Growth Strategies Every Government Leader Should Know](#)" and "[The GPS Guide to Success](#)") geared towards helping leaders gain influence and attain career success. Alex is a Leadership Center for Excellence 40 under 40 honoree and also serves as the Chief Culture Officer for America's second largest national conservation corps, American Conservation Experience. Alex is passionate and committed to helping our nation's leaders reach their highest potential; personally, and professionally. Alex received his Bachelor's degree in sociology and psychology from William Penn University and his Master's degree in industrial and organizational psychology from the University of Baltimore. Please visit [AlexTremble.com](#) to gain the tools and strategies you need to reach your leadership and career goals.



***Dr. Michelle “DOC Mimi” Pacheco Turner  
Operational Deputy***

***Diversity, Conflict Resolution Program Manager, Equity & Inclusion, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC)***

Dr. Michelle Pacheco Turner, is a native of the Dominican Republic, she was raised in Bronx, NY and Hollywood, FL. Upon graduating from Miramar High School, she enlisted in the United States Army. After serving as a non-commissioned officer in the US Army, she retired.

After her time with the US Army, she received her PhD in Organizational Management & Behavior from Capella University and a Masters in Management Acumen and Leadership from Brenau University. She entered federal service in 2009, after working in Corporate America, she started as a Medical Support Specialist at Eisenhower Army Medical Center in Fort Gordon, GA. She then applied for the Department of the Army's (DA) extensive Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Specialist internship program and was selected from over 300 applicants. The program afforded those graduates the opportunity to become EEO Specialists, DA Counselors and Certified Mediators. She became a full time EEO Specialist in interim and was stationed at Fort Campbell, KY. She received her mediation certification from the Justice Center of Atlanta. As an EEO Specialist, Dr. Pacheco Turner became the Diversity and Inclusion Program Manager, Hispanic Employment Program Manager. She moved to Aberdeen, MD, in 2017 where she served as the Complaints Manager, one of the advisors to the Special Emphasis Program Managers Committee and the Sexual Harassment & Assault Resource Center, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

Dr. Pacheco Turner arrived to The United States Army Test and Evaluation Command, in November 2021, as the Operational Deputy to the office of Civil Rights Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. Previously, she served as the Senior Conflict & Resolution Manager at United States Department of Agriculture's Animal Plant, Health, Inspection Services, Office of Civil Rights Diversity & Inclusion, Counseling & Resolution Branch (USDA-APHIS, OCRDI-CRB). Concurrently, she serves as Adjunct faculty with Harford Community College in Churchville, MD.

In addition, she serves on various affinity groups including, The National Council of Hispanic Employment Program Managers, League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Federal



Training Institute (FTI), NASA's Hispanic Outreach and Leadership Alliance (HOLA). Dr. Pacheco Turner has 3 amazing children, two sons (Jaden and Elijah) and a daughter (Abrianna).



*Dr. Ana Valentin*

*Enterprise Service Program Manager*

*National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration*

Dr. Ana Valentin is an Enterprise Service Program Manager for the Office of Chief Information Officer under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Dr. Ana leads various information technology projects critical to NOAA's Mission. Dr. Ana also is a Cyber Applied Research Fellow at Marymount University, Member of the NIST National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education Working Group, and a Vice-President for Education for the Information System Security Association Northern Virginia Chapter. Dr. Ana has degrees in math education, biostatistics, cybersecurity, information security management, and program management. In 2020, Dr. Ana received the first Academic Excellence Award of the Doctoral of Science Cybersecurity Program from Marymount University.



***Jeffrey Vargas***  
***President/CEO***

***Generationology LLC***

Jeffrey Vargas loves empowering people and has devoted his professional life to helping companies and federal agencies cultivate talent and unleash leadership potential – but don't get it twisted, before anything else, he is a son, a father, a husband and a servant of the Most High. In 2018 he founded Generationology LLC - a talent management and intergenerational leadership development consulting firm. His firm provides more than 26 online and in-person cutting-edge dynamic and interactive leadership training workshops for individuals, corporate clients, and federal agencies. Under his direction Generationology has been able to help more than 35 multimillion and multibillion dollar organizations build a more effective intergenerational leadership culture through self-reflection, introspection and improving their intergenerational collaborative intelligence. Jeff is a nationally known figure in the learning and development community and is widely identified as the nation's expert on generational differences in the federal government. He is known for sharing human capital management and leadership insights using data and stories to help facilitate organizational change. Jeff has been speaking professionally since 1995 and has served as a keynote speaker at more than 85 major human capital and workforce conferences and at hundreds of seminars, programs, and events. Before starting his own consulting practice, Jeff enjoyed a 22-year career in the federal service, serving in numerous senior-level human capital roles. He spent more than a decade at the Department of Energy where he designed, developed and deployed strategic hiring and workforce development programs. He then spent a decade as a Federal Chief Learning Officer (CLO) first with the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and then with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC). As a CLO Jeff led the agency's learning and leadership development practice and helped to build enterprise-wide executive education, mentoring, and peer-to-peer learning programs. His undergraduate degree is in Economics from the University of Maryland, College Park, and he's a graduate of Georgetown Universities Training Specialist Program and the prestigious Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Virginia. He also is the founder of the "Chief Learning Officers Network" on LinkedIn, a past instructor at the Brookings Institution, and an advisor to the George Mason University Chief Learning Officers Certification Program. Today Jeff resides with his family in the suburbs of Denver Colorado where he also serves on the board of Globalminded, a Denver-based non-profit organization that

helps first generation college students and young professionals overcome bias, learn the hidden workplace curriculum and become world-class leaders.



***Denise Viera  
Senior Advisor***

***US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs***

Denise Viera has over 30 years of community-focused work experience with an emphasis on community economic development, capacity building, engagement, and collaboration. Currently, Ms. Viera is the Senior Advisor in the US Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs, working on civil rights compliance and coordination issues. Previously while on detail to the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, she was their Senior Projects Coordinator focused on community engagement strategies. She initially joined the DOJ in 2005 as the Deputy Director of the Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO) where she led grant-making efforts to over 300 public safety/neighborhood revitalization sites across the country, and headed CCDO's policy development, technical assistance and administrative functions. In addition, she has served as the director of municipal housing and economic development departments, a graduate school adjunct instructor of community economic development, a civil rights compliance consultant, executive director of several not-for-profits, and a community organizer.

Denise has provided training and technical assistance to hundreds of organizations across the country with a focus on capacity building and leadership development. She has also designed local, state and national policies in the areas of community economic development; increased access to financial resources for underserved communities; provision of housing and related support resources; civil rights. In her role at DOJ she is using these skills to promote increased public safety and fairness in America's most distressed communities.

Ms. Viera earned her BA from the University of Michigan in political science and communications, an MS in community economic development from the New Hampshire College Graduate School of Business, a JD from the University of Connecticut, School of Law, and holds graduate certifications from the Pratt Institute and Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.



***Francisco (Cisco) Werner, Ph.D.***  
***Director of Scientific Programs and Chief Science Advisor***  
***National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration***

Dr. Francisco (Cisco) Werner has been leading scientific efforts in the federal government, academia, and internationally for more than three decades. Presently, Cisco is the acting Assistant Administrator for Oceanic and Atmospheric Research and performs the duties of NOAA Chief Scientist. He is responsible for NOAA's research enterprise including a network of 10 research laboratories and six research programs.

In NOAA Fisheries, Cisco serves as Director of Scientific Programs and Chief Science Advisor and leads NOAA Fisheries' efforts to provide the science needed to support sustainable fisheries and ecosystems.

Prior to joining NOAA Fisheries, he was Professor and Director of the Institute of Marine and Coastal Studies at Rutgers University, and also held several positions at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Cisco's own research has focused on the oceanic environment through development of numerical models of ocean circulation and marine ecosystems. He has studied the effects of climate and physical forcing on the structure, function and abundance of commercially and ecologically important species, and contributed to the development and implementation of ocean forecasting systems.

Originally from Maracaibo, Venezuela, Cisco earned his BSc in Mathematics, and his MSc and PhD in Oceanography, all from the University of Washington.