

Deputy Executive Assistant Commissioner

Cynthia F. Whittenburg



Recently retired Cynthia Whittenburg was appointed Deputy Executive Assistant Commissioner, Office of Trade, in 2016, charged with overseeing one of the most important aspects of U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) complex mission: facilitating lawful trade while protecting our supply chain to support our nation's economic growth and security. Under her leadership, CBP addressed many of the complex challenges in today's trade environment including e-commerce, forced labor, unfair trade practices, and regulatory reform.

Ms. Whittenburg's civil service career began with the U.S. Customs Service at the Port of New Orleans as an import specialist 33 years ago and prior to her current appointment, she served as Executive Director, Trade Policy and Programs within CBP. Her experiences include Course Developer/Instructor at the CBP Field Operations Academy; National Account Manager; Chief of Entry, Summary and Drawback; Director, Trade Facilitation and Administration; and Director ACE Business Transformation, while serving in a parallel career as a commissioned U.S. Army Reservist.

Ms. Whittenburg is a graduate of Dillard University with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science/Business and has earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Georgia Southern University. Additionally, she graduated from the Department of Homeland Security Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program in 2013 and the Senior Managers in Government course at Harvard Kennedy School of Government in 2016. She is currently pursuing a Masters in Legal Studies, International Business Law, at University of Oklahoma.