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Speaker Biographies

Christopher B. Burnham, Under-Secretary-General for Management, United Nations

Christopher Burnham has served as Under-Secretary-General for Management of the United Nations since June 1, 2005. Prior to joining the United Nations, he was acting Undersecretary of the United States Department of State for Management, overseeing all global operations for the State Department, including diplomatic security, human resources, overseas building operations, administration, information resources, and consular affairs.

While at the State Department, Mr. Burnham also served as the Assistant Secretary for Resource Management and Chief Financial Officer, leading all budgeting, accounting and disbursing, strategic planning, budget and performance integration, global financial operations, intelligence resource planning, and critical infrastructure protection. Mr. Burnham led the effort to instill sound business planning practices in all aspects of the State Department, from individual embassy business plans to the Department's strategic plan.

Before joining the Bush Administration, Mr. Burnham served as the Chief Executive Officer of a leading asset management and mutual fund company, PIMCO's Columbus Circle Investors, and as Vice-Chairman of PIMCO's mutual fund group. Earlier, in 1994, he was elected Treasurer of Connecticut, and quickly earned national recognition for sweeping reforms to all aspects of the Connecticut Treasury, and for turning the worst performing state pension fund in the country into one of the top performing public funds nationwide.

Previously, Mr. Burnham was an investment banker with Credit Suisse First Boston and Advest Corporate Finance. He was elected to the Connecticut House of Representatives three times, and served as assistant minority leader. A 23-year veteran of the United States Marine Corps Reserve, he is a veteran of the first Gulf War, and led one of the first infantry units to reach and liberate Kuwait City in 1991.

Mr. Burnham was born in New York, New York in 1956. He earned a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University and a bachelor's degree in political science from Washington & Lee University. He also attended Georgetown University, National Security Studies Program. Mr. Burnham is the recipient of several accounting, leadership, and civic awards.

Linda M. Combs, Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, U.S. Office of Management and Budget

Dr. Linda Morrison Combs was nominated by President George W. Bush and was confirmed on June 24, 2005 to be the Controller at the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President.

She was previously appointed by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the United States Senate to the position of Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs and Chief Financial Officer at the U. S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

As Assistant Secretary, Dr. Combs oversaw all budgetary and management functions of the Department, including budget development and budget execution. As Chief Financial Officer, she was responsible for oversight of the Department's \$57 billion appropriation, the Government Performance and Results Act, as well as general monitoring of programs. The Department of Transportation was the first Cabinet level Department to achieve four coveted "green" scores on the President's Management Agenda.

Prior to her appointment at DOT, Dr. Combs held a Presidential Appointment, confirmed by the Senate, at the Environmental Protection Agency, where she served as Chief Financial Officer from 2001 - 2003. During the previous Reagan and Bush Administrations, Dr. Combs served in various oversight roles and executive level management positions at the Departments of Education, Veterans Affairs, and Treasury.

Dr. Combs has considerable experience with Federal government auditing and financial reporting practices. Dr. Combs achieved a major goal—for the EPA to be one of the most respected CFO offices in the Federal government. Her heroic and historic vision led EPA to be the first cabinet-level agency to achieve the coveted "green" score in financial management. Further recognition of this achievement in financial management came with the prestigious crystal eagle award from the President.

Prior to government service, and following a successful career of over ten years in instructional and administrative positions in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System, she was elected in 1980 to the Board of Education in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County, North Carolina. In 1986 she was appointed as Education Advisor to the Governor of North Carolina.

Dr. Combs has also spent a number of years in the private sector. In her role of Operations Officer and Manager of National Direct Student Loans for Wachovia Corporation, Dr. Combs was responsible for the general management of National Direct Student Loan Operations, with an expense budget that affected several million dollars of annual revenue. For ten years, Dr. Combs and her husband founded and grew their own highly successful private record label and music catalog company to achieve worldwide

distribution of CDs videos, and music books. She is also a published author on family caregiving, and was a national spokesperson for Warner Lambert Pharmaceutical Company.

Before returning to the Federal Government in 2001, Dr. Combs was a member of the Board of Visitors of the Babcock School of Management at Wake Forest University, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Appalachian State University Foundation, and a member of the Board of Trustees at Gardner-Webb University. She also served on several corporate boards.

A native of Granite Falls, North Carolina, she earned an Associate of the Arts degree at Gardner-Webb University, Bachelor of Science and Masters degrees from Appalachian State University, and a Doctorate in Educational Administration from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. She is also a graduate of the Program for Senior Managers in Government at Harvard University, and holds an honorary Doctorate from Gardner-Webb University.

Dr. Combs has received numerous awards, including recently being inducted into the Caldwell County Schools Hall of Honor, the Rhododendron Society at the Reich College of Education at Appalachian State University, and the Appalachian State University Legacy Tribute Award.

Dr. Combs is married to information technology specialist, music composer and producer, David M. Combs. They maintain residences in Washington, DC and North Carolina.

Thomas N. Cooley, Chief Financial Officer, National Science Foundation

Mr. Cooley was appointed Chief Financial Officer and Director, Office of Budget, Finance and Award Administration (BFA) in September 2000, following over 21 years of service to the National Science Foundation. He is responsible for all budget and financial aspects of the Foundation business practices as well as for the administration of more than 35,000 grants and contracts that NSF manages annually.

His previous NSF jobs included working in the Divisions of Earth Sciences and of Ocean Sciences, the Budget Division, and as Special Assistant to the Director, NSF. He spent 1997 on Committee staff, working for Senators McCain and Frist, on the U.S. Senate's Subcommittee on Science, Space and Technology of the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. He was responsible for the NASA Authorization bill as well as the Commercial Space Act of 1998.

Tom received his B.S. from the University of Maryland at College Park, and is an A.B.D. at the University of South Florida in Tampa in physiological plant ecology. He is married, with 4 children, 2 grandchildren, and a host of pets! His hobbies are genealogy and "pounding dirt".

Phyllis K. Fong, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Phyllis K. Fong was sworn in as Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on December 2, 2002. USDA is one of the largest and most diverse departments in the Federal Government. Its mission includes the management of traditional farm programs, private lands conservation, domestic food assistance, agriculture research and education, agricultural marketing, international trade, meat and poultry inspection, forestry, and rural development programs.

As Inspector General, Ms. Fong is the senior official responsible for audits, evaluations, investigations, and law enforcement efforts, relating to USDA's programs and operations. The Office of Inspector General (OIG) provides leadership in promoting economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in USDA programs and addressing fraud, waste, and abuse.

Prior to her appointment at USDA, Ms. Fong served as the Inspector General of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) from April 1999 until December 2002. A career member of the Senior Executive Service, she had also held several positions at SBA OIG, including Assistant Inspector General for Management and Legal Counsel (1994-1999) and Assistant Inspector General for Management and Policy (1988-1994). She also served as Assistant General Counsel for the Legal Services Corporation (1981-1983) and as an attorney with the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (1978-1981).

Ms. Fong was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii. She graduated from Pomona College with a B.A. degree in Asian studies and earned her J.D. degree from Vanderbilt University School of Law. Ms. Fong is a member of the Tennessee and District of Columbia bars. She and her husband, Paul Tellier, have two children.

Johnnie E. Frazier, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Commerce

On July 20, 1999, Johnnie E. Frazier was sworn in as the fourth Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Commerce, and thus assumed responsibility for monitoring the operations of one of the largest and most diverse government agencies: the Department of Commerce and its 13 bureaus administer a vast array of business, scientific, economic, and environmental programs that in one way or another touch the lives of every American everyday. These programs range in focus from domestic enterprise and international trade matters to economic and demographic data gathering to weather forecasting and marine research.

As Inspector General, Mr. Frazier is charged with (1) promoting economy and efficiency and (2) detecting and preventing fraud, waste, and abuse in these diverse programs and operations. He is one of the statutory federal IGs who, under the Inspector General Act of 1978, oversee independent offices of Inspector General within their respective agencies that investigate and evaluate agency programs and activities.

Mr. Frazier's presidential appointment as Inspector General caps his more than 3 decades of distinguished public service, during which time he has helped shape the full range of OIG activities and operations—performance and financial audits, domestic and international inspections, program and systems evaluations, as well as serving in key leadership and management functions. Under his supervision, the Commerce OIG has conducted a broad range of high-profile reviews of key domestic, international, scientific, and economic programs that have streamlined government processes, significantly improved program management, and saved millions of federal dollars. Mr. Frazier has received numerous awards for superior leadership and extraordinary contributions to the work of the Department, including Commerce's two top honors—the Gold and Silver medals.

Mr. Frazier chairs the Inspection and Evaluation Committee of the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE)—a federal organization that promotes interagency IG collaboration to address and improve government-wide management deficiencies. As committee chair and PCIE executive board member, he is recognized as an innovator and creative force within the IG community. Mr. Frazier is active in the Association of Inspectors General—a national organization of federal, state, and local IGs—and member of the Association of Government Accountants and other organizations that promote good government.

Mr. Frazier holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Howard University, a master's degree in public administration from George Washington University, and has completed extensive coursework at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Natwar M. Gandhi, PhD, CGFM, Chief Financial Officer, The Government of the District of Columbia

Natwar M. Gandhi, Ph.D. is Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the District of Columbia and is responsible for the city's finances, including its approximately \$7 billion in annual operating and capital funds. Gandhi was nominated to this position by Mayor Anthony A. Williams and appointed on June 7, 2000. On Nov. 6, 2001, the Council of the District of Columbia unanimously approved the Mayor's nomination of Gandhi to a new five-year term as CFO.

As the independent CFO, Gandhi manages the District's financial operations, which include more than 1,000 staff members in tax and revenue administration; the treasury, comptroller and budget offices; economic and fiscal analysis and revenue estimation functions; agency financial operations; and lottery operations. He works closely with congressional committees and the U.S. Office of Management and Budget staff that oversee District affairs. He also regularly interacts with the Wall Street financial community, including rating agencies, regarding the District's financial matters.

Gandhi has built on the District's financial progress by securing several rating upgrades for its general obligation bonds from the major rating agencies, including a return to an 'A' rating from Standard and Poor's and Fitch Ratings - the first 'A' level rating for the District since 1995 - and the first 'A' level rating ever from Moody's Investors Service. In 2005, Standard and Poor's further increased its rating for the District to 'A+' - the highest ever for the city's borrowings.

As CFO, Gandhi sits on the boards of the Washington Convention Center Authority, National Capital Revitalization Corporation, D.C. Sports and Entertainment Commission, and the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation.

Prior to this appointment, Gandhi served as Deputy Chief Financial Officer for Tax and Revenue, leading an organization that administers the District of Columbia's tax laws and annually collects approximately \$4 billion in local revenues. When Gandhi joined the Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR) in 1997, the agency was in disarray. Its revenue base was shrinking, and employee morale was sinking. Under his leadership, OTR demonstrated a remarkable turnaround. Successes included collecting substantially more in tax revenue than in previous

years, turning projected city deficits into huge surpluses; issuing more than 150,000 tax refunds within 15 days during the 1999 and 2000 tax-filing seasons; and establishing a new one-stop, walk-in Customer Service Center to improve public outreach.

The momentum Gandhi established at OTR has continued under his leadership as the city's CFO. In 2002, OTR received the Federation of Tax Administrators "Award for Outstanding Technology Applications for State Administrations" for its Electronic Taxpayer Service Center.

Prior to his appointment to OTR, Gandhi served as Associate Director of Tax Policy and Administration for the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO), where he managed major research projects involving

financial and tax policy relating to large financial institutions. In that capacity he worked closely with the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee and the U.S. Senate Finance Committee, among others, and he testified numerous times on tax and financial issues before congressional and state legislative committees.

In 1991, Gandhi served as a special assistant to New Jersey Gov. Jim Florio, where he studied the state's pension system and advised on changes in its funding.

From 1973 to 1976, Gandhi was Assistant Professor of Accounting and then Coordinator of the Department of Accounting in the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Business. From 1976 until 1998, he was an adjunct professor for the MBA programs of American University, Georgetown University and the University of Maryland.

Gandhi has received numerous awards, including The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Meritorious Leadership Award (Inaugural Recipient) and the D.C. Chamber of Commerce Impact Award in 2005, as well as Achievement of the Year Awards from the Association of Government Accountants (National chapter in 2000 and Washington, D.C., chapter in 1999). He also received the President's Award from the Greater Washington Society of CPA's in 2000, and Distinguished Service and Meritorious Service Awards from the GAO.

In 2005, the National Academy of Public Administration elected Gandhi as a fellow for his "sustained exemplary contributions and continuing active commitment to the improvement of public administration." He is also a member of the Metropolitan Club of Washington, D.C.

Gandhi holds a doctorate in accounting from Louisiana State University, a master's degree in business administration from Atlanta University, and an LL.B and B.Com. in accounting from the University of Bombay.

Kathleen Grimm, Deputy Chancellor, Finance and Administration, New York City Department of Education

Ms. Grimm was appointed Deputy Chancellor in August 2002. Her duties include oversight of the Department's \$14 billion expense budget and \$13.1 billion capital budget, as well as supervision of IT,

procurement, payroll, food, transportation, facility maintenance, the Public School Athletic League, and the School Construction Authority. She represents the Chancellor as Trustee of the Teachers Retirement System and the Board of Education Retirement System.

Prior to her appointment, Ms. Grimm served in other governmental roles including those of New York State Deputy Comptroller for New York City and First Deputy Commissioner of the New York City Finance Department where she served four times as Acting Commissioner.

Ms. Grimm is an attorney and she has practiced in the areas of taxation, trusts and estate, and real estate. She is an Adjunct Professor at New York Law School where she teaches the course "Municipal Finance".

Ms. Grimm was graduated from Manhattanville College in Purchase, New York. She holds a J.D. (cum laude) from New York Law School and an LL.M. (tax) from the New York University School of Law. She is a Trustee of New York Law School and a member of the Advisory Council of the Center for New York City Law. She is also a board member of the Salvadori Center, a non profit organization which runs innovative programs in public schools, and serves as President of her cooperative in Manhattan.

Edward M. Henry, III, Congressional Correspondent, CNN, Former Roll Call Editor

CNN Congressional Correspondent and former senior editor of Roll Call newspaper, Ed Henry is famous for his inside scoops and irreverent flair. Firmly grounded in the political scene in Washington, he is one of the nation's leading experts on the political climate and legislative jockeying on the hill.

As one of the most influential political publications in the nation's capital, Roll Call, the non-partisan newspaper, is closely read by lawmakers in both parties. Henry's political gossip column "Heard on the Hill," was known for combining bare-knuckles reporting with witty insights that made it a "must-read" among Washington insiders.

Henry is so wired to the backrooms of Washington that during a recent appearance on CNN's Inside Politics program he was introduced as one of the "most astute Capitol Hill reporters" in the business.

As one of the nation's leading experts on the political climate and legislative jockeying on the Hill, various networks – CNBC, C-SPAN, Fox News Channel, MSNBC and many others – frequently call upon Henry to provide cogent analysis. He also serves as a regular political commentator for WUSA-TV, the CBS affiliate in Washington, and WMAL, the ABC Radio affiliate in D.C.

Perhaps Henry's biggest exclusive came in January of 1998, when he secured the only newspaper interview with then-President Clinton on the day that the Monica Lewinsky story broke.

Henry cut his teeth as an investigative reporter by spending five years at the elbow of Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Jack Anderson in the early 1990s. Having worked at the twice-weekly newspaper since April of 1996, he covered the Senate for Roll Call prior to becoming senior editor.

He is also a contributing editor at Washingtonian magazine and CNBC.com.

Uniquely qualified to provide valuable insights about the new balance of power on Capitol Hill, as well as forecast the 2008 Presidential race, Henry is a strong and affordable addition to any legislative meeting or forum. Bringing an infinite knowledge of politics and journalism, Henry is also unique and unmistakably funny at the podium.

Charles E. Johnson, CPA, Assistant Secretary for Budget, Technology and Finance, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Charles E. Johnson was appointed by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the United States Senate as Assistant Secretary for Budget, Technology, and Finance at the Department of Health and

Human Services in 2005. He previously served in an appointed position as Chief Financial Officer of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Mr. Johnson was President of Huntsman Cancer Foundation and Vice President of Huntsman LLC from 2001 to 2004. From 1997 to 2004, he also served as a member of the Utah State Board of Regents, which oversees all public institutions of higher education in the state of Utah. He served as Chair of the Board of Regents from December 1997 through May 2002.

Prior to joining Huntsman, Mr. Johnson served as Vice Chairman of the Board for Strategic Direction with the Garff-Warner Organization from 1997 to 2001. He served as Chief of Staff to the Governor of the state of Utah from 1992 to 1997. Prior to becoming Chief of Staff, Mr. Johnson was Director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget for the state of Utah in 1991 and 1992. Mr. Johnson served as Director of the 2000 re-election campaign for Governor Michael O. Leavitt.

Mr. Johnson spent thirty-one years in the practice of public accounting, retiring from KPMG in 1991. Mr. Johnson has considerable experience with public companies. While with KPMG, Mr. Johnson served on its Board of Directors and as Chairman of its Merger Transition Committee.

In addition, Mr. Johnson has been a member of the Boards of Directors and Executive Committee of the Economic Development Corporation of Utah, the Utah Sports Commission, the Alliance for Unity, the Judicial Nomination Commission, the Economic Development Council of the Salt Lake Area Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trustees of the Utah Opera Company, the Board of Trustees of the Gina Bachauer International Piano Foundation, the Governor's Gala Committee, the Utah State Bar Securities Advisory Committee, the Board of Directors of the Brigham Young University Management Society, and the Brigham Young University School of Management Alumni Board. Mr. Johnson received the outstanding alumnus award from Brigham Young University School of Accountancy in 1985.

Mr. Johnson has served as Vice President of the Utah Association of Certified Public Accountants (UACPA), a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Board of Examiners, which oversees the preparation and grading of the CPA exam, Chairman of the AICPA Accounting Practices Committee, Chairman of the AICPA Grading Committee and a member of the Utah State Board of Public Accountancy. He received the outstanding CPA award from the UACPA in 1995.

Mr. Johnson graduated with honors from Brigham Young University in 1960 with a B.S. degree in accounting. He began his public accounting career in California where he was with another international accounting firm in Los Angeles.

Mr. Johnson is married to the former Susanna Brown. They have six grown children.

Jennifer Main, Chief Financial Officer, U. S. Small Business Administration

Ms. Main is the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). She was named CFO in October 2005, after serving as the Deputy Chief Financial Officer for three years. Prior to joining SBA, she was a Senior Manager with KPMG Consulting's banking practice where she worked with private and public sector financial institutions. She is a successful entrepreneur, having started a small business in 1998 that provided financial analysis to lenders nationwide. The company was sold to a venture capital firm in 2000. Ms. Main served as a Budget Analyst at the U.S. Office of Management and Budget from 1991 to 1996 and developed a specialty in Federal credit programs. Ms. Main has a B.A. from Cornell University and a Master's in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and was a Presidential Management Intern.

William McCabe, Chief of Staff to the Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Education

Bill McCabe was appointed Chief of Staff in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer in August 2002. In this capacity, McCabe serves as the principal advisor to the Chief Financial Officer on all issues related to the Department's systems and operations, and as a delegate in CFO's absence. McCabe directs the formulation, development and implementation of the Department's financial and system operations, and internal control activities.

While serving as the Chief of Staff, the Department received four clean audit opinions, recognition by the Office of Management and Budget for Financial Management Excellence, and the President's Quality Award for Financial Management.

Previously, McCabe was a Senior Manager for Financial Solutions for KPMG, where he directed major managerial accounting programs for large government entities, managed technical and contractual deliverables and obligations, and provided expertise in facilities and asset management as well as financial and audit strategies.

Prior to working with KPMG, McCabe was a Financial Solutions Architect with the Oracle Corporation. With Oracle, McCabe published several documents and newsletters relating to e-business, customer resource management solutions, and business intelligence within the government and commercial sectors. McCabe acquired extensive knowledge of the Oracle financial system, as well as leading competitive systems. He worked collaboratively with development and consulting organizations to ensure functional accounting viability and quality assurance. McCabe was responsible for business development, including the expansion of the Oracle Business Suite in both the public and private sectors. He was the Chief Architect relating to the design and demonstration of financial and business intelligence solutions.

Before working at Oracle, McCabe held various business administration and financial management positions with Mitre Corporation and Singer Corporation.

A native of Maryland, McCabe holds a B.S. in Finance and Economics from the University of Maryland, and an M.B.A. in finance and investments from George Washington University. He and his wife Patty reside in North Potomac, Maryland, and have two children, William, a junior at the University of Maryland, and Jenny, a sophomore at Thomas S. Wootton High School.

Thomas Modly, MBA, MA, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Financial Management), U.S. Department of Defense, Comptroller's Office

Thomas Modly was appointed Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Financial Management, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, in February 2005. In this role, Mr. Modly serves as the principal adviser to the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) and other senior DoD officials for financial reform and business modernization. Specifically, Mr. Modly provides executive leadership to the Department of Defense Business Management Modernization Program, working across the business missions of the Department to drive rapid transformation of business processes & systems.

Previously, he served as the Executive Director of the Defense Business Board (DBB) from July 2002 until February 2005. In that capacity, Mr. Modly coordinated the activities of the Board as it developed strategies for implementing private sector best practices in the interest of the Department of Defense. An accomplished strategist and M&A specialist, Mr. Modly brings 11 years of active duty military and 10 years of corporate development and strategy experience to the Department. He served in various senior management positions with UNC, Inc., in Annapolis, MD, and Oxford Associates in Bethesda, MD, prior to co-founding the Empyrean Group (later to be named Iconixx Corporation), where he led the company's merger and acquisition activity.

Mr. Modly earned a Bachelor of Science degree with Distinction from the United States Naval Academy in 1983, a Master of Arts in Government from Georgetown University in 1984, and an MBA with Honors from Harvard Business School in 1992. Prior to his business career, he was a Naval Helicopter Pilot and an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the United States Air Force Academy. He is married with four children and resides in Annapolis, MD.

Dale W. Sopper, CGFM, Deputy Commissioner for Finance, Assessment and Management, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Acquisition Officer, U.S. Social Security Administration

Dale W. Sopper is the Deputy Commissioner for Finance, Assessment and Management at the Social Security Administration (SSA). He is responsible for providing executive leadership and direction in administering: a comprehensive financial program of budget policy, formulation and execution; the Agency's acquisition and grants program; audit resolution and liaison; accounting policy and operations; the internal controls program; program quality assessment activities; Agencywide facilities and publications management programs; and the Agency's efforts to improve Annual Wage Reporting and wage reconciliation activities. Mr. Sopper also serves as SSA's Chief Financial Officer and Principal Deputy Ethics Counselor.

From November 1983 to November 1987, Mr. Sopper was the Deputy Associate Commissioner, and subsequently Associate Commissioner, for SSA's Office of Management, Budget and Personnel. He was responsible for the leadership and management of the Agency's budget, acquisition and grants, human resources, labor relations, training, materiel resources, civil rights and equal opportunity programs and management planning and analysis studies.

Prior to this, Mr. Sopper held several executive positions in the Department of Health and Human Services, including Special Assistant to the Secretary, Assistant Secretary for Management and Budget and Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation. Mr. Sopper began his career with the Federal Government in 1965 as a Claims Insurance Specialist with SSA in Kansas City, Missouri.

Throughout his Federal service, Mr. Sopper has received a number of distinguished honors, including the HHS Distinguished Service Award, Secretary Letter of Commendation, Secretary's Special Citation and Superior Service Award and SSA Commissioner's Citations. He is also the recipient of the Presidential Rank Awards for both Distinguished Executive and Meritorious Executive, the Donald Scantlebury Memorial Award, the Elmer Staats Award and the Frank Greathouse Distinguished Leadership Award.

William C. Thompson, Jr., Comptroller, New York City Comptroller's Office

William C. Thompson, Jr. became New York City's 42nd Comptroller on January 1, 2002, and was re-elected in 2005. A lifelong resident of Brooklyn, Thompson is the son of a judge and a teacher. He is the proud product of the New York City public school system.

Thompson has used the powers of his office to aggressively safeguard the City's finances, seeking out savings and rooting out waste. His audits of City agencies have uncovered \$170 million in savings, including more than \$22 million in Medicaid reimbursements unclaimed by the Department of Education and almost \$4 million in fines uncollected by the Taxi and Limousine Commission. Also, under Thompson's watch, the amount of money collected for damage done to City property rose dramatically. Thompson has earned a reputation as a tough advocate for New Yorkers. He has stood on the side of working people seeking a living wage and fairness on the job. He led the fight to protect the City's Meals-On-Wheels program, an invaluable lifeline for many frail elderly. Thompson's battle against the proposed bus and subway fare hikes forced the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to open its books to the public. He alerted New Yorkers that the Federal government was failing to make good on its promise of aid in the wake of the September 11th terrorist attacks. Thompson challenged the City's inequitable plan to reduce trash collection in some boroughs and was a leader in the successful campaign to fully reinstate the City's recycling program. Through his Community Action Center, Thompson has helped more than 40,000 New Yorkers with problems regarding City services.

As custodian and investment advisor to all five of the City's pension funds, Thompson manages a combined portfolio of more than \$91 billion. In this role, Thompson has invested hundreds of millions of dollars in affordable housing and commercial real estate in New York City, helping increase housing and job opportunities within the five boroughs. He also has been an aggressive corporate shareholder, seeking reforms on issues such as employment discrimination, executive compensation as well as environmental and human rights policies. He gained a national reputation for his efforts to stop corporations like Halliburton from doing business with countries that actively support terrorism. Thompson also worked with leaders of the financial services industry to reform the operations of the New York Stock Exchange.

Thompson graduated from Tufts University, where he currently serves as a member of the Board of Trustees. He graduated from Brooklyn's P.S. 161, Andries Hudde Intermediate School and Midwood High School. In 1998, Thompson was awarded an honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from Mercy College. Following his work for a Brooklyn congressman and his service as the borough's youngest-ever Deputy Borough President, Thompson was appointed to the New York City Board of Education in 1994. Two years later, he began the first of five consecutive terms as its President. During that period, Thompson led a reform agenda that resulted in improved student achievement and greater public accountability. Thompson also served as a Senior Vice President for Public Finance at an investment banking firm in the early 1990s.

Thompson lives in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn.

Kathleen M. Turco, Acting Deputy Administrator and Chief Financial Officer, U.S. General Services Administration

Kathleen M. Turco serves as the Acting Deputy Director and Chief Financial Officer for the General Services Administration (GSA). In this capacity, she provides the executive leadership and direction in administering the GSA's Performance Management Process (PMP) including the strategic planning, budgeting and performance cycle, financial analysis and reporting, as well as the operation and improvements to the financial management systems. GSA is a fee-based Federal agency which acquires and offers services, commodities and facilities to support the needs of other Federal agencies with annual revenue exceeding \$20 billion in FY 2004 and an annual budget of over \$20 billion in obligations and expenses. She was selected as of December 2005 to serve as the Acting Deputy Administrator for GSA.

Ms. Turco came to GSA from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). At IRS she served as the Director of Financial Policy, Planning and Programs in the Office of the Chief Information Officer from 2001 to 2002 where she directed the financial and budget policy and planning for IRS's \$2 billion in business systems modernization and information services operations and maintenance. From 1998 to 2002, Ms. Turco was the IRS' Deputy Chief Financial Officer for Strategic Planning and Budgeting where she directed the strategic planning, budget policy, formulation and financial execution of the \$8 billion budget along with IRS capital planning and investment management.

Prior to IRS, Ms. Turco was an examiner at the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President for ten years. At OMB, she was the IRS budget examiner in the Treasury Branch from 1995 until 1998 as well as an examiner in the Office of Federal Financial Management from 1988 until 1995. She began her career with the Department of Education. She earned a B.S. from the University of Maryland and a M.B.A. in business from the University of West Florida.

James Webster, CIA, Audit Director, Prince William County, VA

Mr. Webster has 29 years of audit experience at the local and state government levels. In 1994, Mr. Webster developed Prince William County's first Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) Report, which provides information on the performance of major County programs benchmarked against prior year performance and other jurisdictions. In addition to preparing the annual SEA Report, Prince William County Internal Audit conducts traditional internal audits of County programs, audits the accuracy of performance data used by officials to make business decisions, coordinates the County's annual Citizen Satisfaction Survey, investigates reports of fraud within the County Government, and promotes sound internal control. Mr. Webster holds a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting and a Masters in Business Administration from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Mr. Webster has served on County Strategic Plan Task Forces, the County's Senate Productivity and Quality Award Steering Committee, and as a Continuous Quality Improvement instructor. He has served as president of the Virginia Local Government Auditors Association, is a Certified Internal Auditor, and a member of: the Institute of Internal Auditors, National Association of Local Government Auditors, and Virginia Local Government Auditor's Association.