

# Seattle Federal Executive Board

## 2021 Public Service Awards

May 18, 2021



# 2021 Seattle Federal Executive Board Public Service Award Ceremony Program

May 18, 12:00 pm Pacific, by Zoom  
(Participant login: <https://youtu.be/gSMSNrdI9ZM>)



## Message from the Chair-- 2021

Greetings from the SFEB Board and thank you for joining us to celebrate accomplishments of some of our colleagues this past year. We appreciate everyone who nominated their employees, recorded videos for their staff, and contributed in other ways to make this virtual event happen. Special thanks also to our special guest speaker Guest Speaker Acting U.S. Attorney Tessa Gorman for joining us on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to all the staff who went above and beyond to deliver extraordinary public service.

*Jennifer Watson, Chair*

# **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

Presented by Michael Look  
Deputy Regional Administrator, Region 10

## **Diane Schooley**

Diane Schooley is Secretary to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Region X Regional Administrator and is the one front-line customer service staff for HUD's Seattle Regional Office. In calendar year 2020 she responded to over 1,600 customer service requests (phone calls, walk-ins, voicemails, or emails) in addition to her work responding to Congressional and White House correspondence, public correspondence, scheduling, routing mail and other tasks. In the past 12 months she's had to pick up the customer service load that had been the responsibility of another staff who transferred to another office and train / guide another back-up staff person. Through the pressures of new and changing reporting systems, Diane's perspective as an end user is valued by her supervisors and she regularly provides constructive feedback. Amid the challenges in the lack of availability of resources in the community for homeless persons, renters, and families facing foreclosure, Diane has approached and served each and every customer with the proper mix of professionalism, empathy, care, and accurate information. Through the coronavirus pandemic and working from home, Diane has always been ready with a bright "smile-through-the-telephone" for customers in need of help.

## **HUD's Office of General Counsel Team**

**(Attorneys Roxane Broadhead, Jennifer Evert, Kyra Perrigo, Mary Shirley, and Paralegal Geoff Navaja)**

During the period of April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021, attorneys Roxane Broadhead, Jennifer Evert, Kyra Perrigo, Mary Shirley, and paralegal Geoff Navaja successfully reviewed and closed 115 Multifamily and Healthcare projects despite being placed on mandatory telework at the start of the COVID pandemic. This amazing team completed their full reviews of each of these deals and coordinated with their clients and leadership to assure all packages were complete, all regulatory requirements were met, and all required signatures were obtained, all while operating under pandemic telework protocols which were being created as they went. Through their extraordinary work ethic, embracing technology, and innovative methods, this team closed a record number of deals in a single year without the office resources they have always relied upon.

## **Daniel Raymond**

Few people exemplify teamwork and Federal leadership in every aspect of their lives like Dan Raymond.

Dan serves as an Employee and Labor Relations (ELR) Specialist for Region 10. In this role, Dan excels in his responsibility to ensure that the agency's personnel policies and procedures are administered fairly, that any workplace inefficiencies are addressed, and that managers are supported in their efforts to maintain a team that is equipped to effectively accomplish HUD's mission. Dan takes his role very seriously, often introducing new initiatives to streamline processes for management in order to address workplace issues. Dan goes above and beyond his regional responsibilities, supporting the ELR operation nationwide by stepping in to serve on several personnel data systems teams which will have impact for over 5000 managers and employees across the agency. On these cross-functional teams, Dan collaborates with a large group of experts from both within and outside of ELR, representing the division and ELR's needs extremely well, while considering the viewpoints of other areas. His work on these teams has required a great deal of commitment in being sequestered for vendor reviews and working for months with fellow stakeholders to select new agency-wide systems to improve employee services on a national level.

Even more amazing than Dan's accomplishments at HUD, Dan exhibits true leadership for his country, holding the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and serving as the Commander of the 2nd Battalion 205th Regiment with the Washington Army National Guard. Dan balances his work duties while overseeing a large unit of army officers working to protect all Americans. Dan is certified as a Master Parachutist, and it is quite common to catch Dan juggling his work duties while sitting in the barracks in fatigues, or after he has just jumped out of a plane in a military drill. Dan is also an active father, and the recent recipient of an MBA. Dan manages all these responsibilities with humility, wisdom, and an unwavering commitment to serve. Not only is Dan a terrific team player and leader, he is a hero.

## **Brian Sturdivant**

Mr. Brian Sturdivant the Regional Environmental Officer (REO) in HUD Region X worked with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to develop a formal programmatic consultation under the Endangered Species Act, as staffing issues at NMFS were significantly delaying consultations for individual HUD projects in Washington State. In September 2020, after nearly a year of development, NMFS officially released the "Washington State NMFS Programmatic." This Programmatic has significantly improved the environmental review process by ensuring that HUD and Responsible Entities will be able to complete consultation in 20 days, as compared to six months or more before the Programmatic was in place. This helps HUD projects

in Washington State avoid unacceptable delays and uncertainty regarding outcomes and timelines.

# **U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons,** **Federal Detention Center SeaTac**

Presented by: Alison Mulcahy, Ph. D.  
Chief Psychologist

## **Health Services Unit (HSU)**

**(Nina Aldan, James Corliss, Jared Kavanaugh, Cynthia Santiago-Morales, Karen Riedl-Figueroa, Halina Sosa, Karen Yamane, Maria Dy, Scottie Bussell, Eneida Santiago, Terry Carnes, Giles Durano)**

The Health Services Unit (HSU) at FDC SeaTac is responsible for providing safe, effective healthcare that is clinically appropriate and medically necessary to the Bureau's inmate population. FDC Seatac HSU, without immediate guidance from the regional office, was able to implement and enforce infectious disease interventions to prevent and contain the deadly Corona virus during the early days of the pandemic. Swift actions by the department included isolating inmates with temperatures over 101 degrees, contacted local hospital and universities regarding obtaining Covid-19 PCR testing, consulted Washington state CDC representatives on how to manage potential Covid positive cases. The HSU department response to the Covid-19 pandemic has been challenging. Their commitment and devotion in providing a safer environment for all staff and inmates have minimized more catastrophic events from happening such as death.

## **Federal Detention Center SeaTac –All employees**

The Federal Detention Center in SeaTac employs over 200 hundred first responders and is being recognized for COVID-19 response. Since the first coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak that resulted in the pandemic, the FDC SeaTac quickly established a Command Center where the initial planning of the COVID-19 response was launched even before there was any national guidance. The quick response by the Federal Detention Center in implementing safety measures to protect the workforce in the correctional facility by providing guidance on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), assigning isolation and quarantine units, sanitizing processes, and screening staff and visitors coming in the institution resulted in thousands of dollars saved as well as numerous lives.

# **U.S. General Services Administration**

Presented by: Chaun Benjamin  
Regional Commissioner, Public Buildings Service, GSA Region 10

## **Assisted Acquisitions Services (AAS) Team**

**\*GSA Team Members: Hope Mitchell, Project Manager, Brandon York, Contracting Officer, Brad DeMers, Procurement Analyst, Brian Boothe, Customer Account Manager, Paul Szymanski, Branch Chief,**

**Kim McFall, R10 AAS Director,**

**John FitzGibbon, Region Emergency Coordinator,**

**Kandice Petorak, Deputy Regional Emergency Coordinator.**

**\*FEMA Team Members: Timothy Manner, Lon Biasco, Michael Brockett**

In April 2020 GSA received a Mission Assignment to create a First in the nation Pilot Program for a complete ready to go Field Hospital acquisition package for FEMA. Over a 3.5 month period and hundreds of hours the GSA Federal Acquisition Service's Assisted Acquisitions Services (AAS) Team created and signed a multi-million dollar Basic Ordering Agreement (BOA) for FEMA in each of the 4 states in Region 10. The BOA is broken into 4 elements: 1) Equipment, 2) Medical Personnel, 3) Staff Wrap Around Services, and 4) Patient Wrap Around Services. FEMA now has the ability to stand up a complete field hospital with less than two weeks' notice.

## **GSA Region 10 Advanced Automated Acquisition Program (AAAP) team** **(Ryan Schneider, Chris Lewis, Samantha Barr)**

The GSA Region 10 AAAP team has helped overcome high workloads through its aggressive marketing and use of the Advanced Automated Acquisition Program for leasing. This program streamlines the procurement process to reduce cycle times and when coupled with the marketing effort exerted by the team, increased competition from the market helped drive down prices and save taxpayer money. Twenty-two leases have been awarded achieving a \$6.45M savings. Larger Seattle communities as well as communities such as Vancouver, Spokane, and Wenatchee all benefited from new long-term leases. Environmentally sustainable facility standards such as Energy Star were required.

### **R10 PBS Services A/B teams**

**(Tracey Linna, Crystal Parris, Josh Anderson, Karisa Kelley, Jose Domingo, Jessica Wilde, Thomas Ebenhoh, Daniel Cotto, Charles Enoch, Darryl Sample, Carlos Stewart, Tracy Mals, Brian Davis, Calvin Philippi, Brian Reed)**

The R10 Public Building Services (PBS Services) A/B teams were instrumental in executing multiple requirements in Portland/Seattle as a result of damages from protests. Many of these were short-notice requirements or required creative collaboration with cross-Division partners. These requirements had direct safety/security community impact and facility physical restoration due to graffiti and other damages – again direct community impact. Additionally, both teams established “buddy” systems to cover ongoing team requirements to mitigate any lapse of service and provided adequate time for the emergent protest damages to be executed. The energy and mission focus were evident and these teams well deserving of this award.

### **Genevieve Christensen**

Genevieve is a leader in data analytics, constantly driving PBS Region 10 forward by identifying opportunities to utilize data to make smart strategic decisions. Genevieve serves as the 'go to' person in R10 for developing tools that allow for efficient use and quick understanding of data. She has developed creative solutions to visualize data such as dashboards on the Client Portfolio, Asset Intelligence and Funds from Operations to help focus GSA's resources on actionable projects and priorities. She is skilled at gathering data from multiple sources into one cohesive picture. This saves staff time and resources and informs decision-making on backfill strategies for vacant space, reinvestment in our owned assets, and housing solutions for new requirements. She also supports the region in tracking project data, which allows us to identify risks early and get appropriate cross-divisional coordination to ensure successful project delivery. As a result, GSA saw significant time savings and improved effectiveness, leading to excellent customer service and overall savings to the American taxpayer.

### **Hand Sanitizer Team**

**(Brett Reagan, Ken Swartz, Richard Sung, Mary Senn, Jess Edminston, Bob Bliss)**

Due to COVID-19 and the need for agencies to purchase bulk hand sanitizer to provide to staff and the public, an unexpected issue arose regarding safe handling and storage of the flammable material. As agencies were receiving delivery of material, this GSA Region 10 team quickly worked to develop a plan and guidance for agencies. The team was proactive in involvement at the regional and national level to coordinate fire safety issues, develop an inventory and plan for storage of the materials in owned and leased locations. This plan and guidance were adopted nationally and provided to customers nationwide.



### **Operation Cost Savings**

**(Joshua Doerr, Craig Thomas, Michael Eddington, Marty Novini)**

Region 10 Energy Program Manager and the Seattle US Courthouse facilities management team partnered with the Seattle City light to achieve approximately 1.6M gallons reduction in sewage charges annually, equivalent to \$31,000 cost savings at the building. This effort involves a diligent review of the water usage at the building and a low-cost investment to install deduct water flow meters at strategic locations to accurately report actual water consumption. This initiative is part of an ongoing building commissioning process that involves resource conservation experts and facilities management staff throughout the+C25 Region 10 property portfolio. Finding savings at an already high performing building highlights the team's commitment to maintaining high performance facilities for federal agencies, the communities they serve and ultimately the taxpayers.

### **GSA and Department of Energy Leasing Team**

**\*Leasing - GSA**

**(Caitlin Morgan, Peyton Johnson, Brian Votava, Alex Baney, Richard Sung,  
Jerry Melheim, Shayla Clay-Mouzon, Abraham Lacayo)**

**\*Architectural & Engineering Svs - GSA**

**(Joe Seufert, Rebecca Nielsen - RHPO, Chelsea Branchcomb)**

**\*Design and Construction - GSA**

**(William Earl)**

**\*Tenant Services - GSA**

**(Theresa Moss)**

**\*Asset Manager - GSA**

**(Richard Larson)**

**\*Planning - GSA**

**(Anna Deherrera)**

**\*Department of Energy (DOE)**

**(Pam Peckham, David Steinau, Fatima Pashaei, Bill Seifert)**

In response to Statute 42 USC 7144d, which created the Office of Arctic Energy for the purpose of promoting research, development and deployment of electric power technology that is cost-effective and suited for the needs of rural and remote regions, the Department of Energy and General Services Administration collaborated to acquire a lease in order to establish this ground-breaking partnership with the University of Alaska which maximizes the impact of their expertise and experience in this field. Due to time constraints set forth in the Statue, the lease was procured from start to finish in less than 1 month.

### **GSA Riot Response Team**

**(Dave Mery, John Gregory, Scott Deveau, Valerie Connerly, Jessica Wilde, Tom Ebenhoh, Jose Domingo, Colleen Butler, Chris Towery, Heather Bowden, Jeff Davis, Terry Martinson, Rebecca Nielsen, Dan Galvin, Tracy Mals)**

From May 2020 through today, in addition to addressing ongoing and challenging aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic, this team has been responding to multiple violent opportunist attacks to the Federal Buildings and Courthouses in the Portland Area. From the onset of the riot attacks, the building management team worked with tenant occupants of all of the affected buildings to ensure communication with the building tenants and local federal community was consistent and timely. During this unprecedented time, these individuals had to continually adapt to the events and needs of the community. In order to do this, these individuals have coordinated with the Department of Homeland Security, the US Marshals Service, the US Federal Courts, and other agencies to ensure building occupants were protected to the best of their ability and that reparation and repairs projects were started as soon as safely possible. In addition to the building managers, GSA had contracting officers, project managers, and subject matter experts have, and continue to, deliver projects to support the federal government's ability to continue to function during this time of unrest.

Projects included: immediate requirements to board-up windows at the onset, provide graffiti removal (a multitude of times), repair damage to windows and exterior fixtures, cleaning of trash and fire damage, and ensure air quality within the building was maintained. Due to the nature of the events many of the responses, coordination, and actions taken were after normal working hours and during the weekends. Total value of projects to date is approximately \$2.6 million and rising. Repair projects continue to be developed and implemented to maintain properly functioning facilities and pride in ownership of federal property.

**Oregon Wildfire General Services Administration (GSA)**  
**Emergency Support Function 7 (ESF-7) and**  
**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Logistics**

**\*GSA team**

**(John FitzGibbon, Kandice Petorak, Jasper Boudreaux, Susan Alexander-Mroz,  
Lindsey Vanover)**

**\*FEMA team**

**(David "Bic" Bicanovsky, Vince Johnson, Christopher Roberts, Rodney Harris,  
Pamela Zawada, Fayne Knobbe, Jonathon Russell, Jeremy Utter, Ralph Murray,  
Timothy Hernandez, Earl Prather III, Jordan Madison, Damond Bernstine,  
Scott Erickson)**

Labor Day 2020 brought the perfect wildfire conditions throughout the state of Oregon. Multiple fires ignited across the western side of the state. On September 9<sup>th</sup> Governor Kate Brown requested a National Disaster Declaration which was signed on 9/15/2021. This multi-agency effort began with FEMA moving in to assist the state of Oregon and respond to the unprecedented disaster in the state of Oregon. FEMA and GSA have been working tirelessly for the last 7 months on over 14 leases and 12 lease amendments worth over 1.2 million dollars to bring displaced families back to their communities and into temporary housing. As of March 18, 2021, over 250 survivor families were approved to receive housing and 120 of those families have already moved into their temp housing. Work is still being completed on the remaining locations. Once complete, families will be able to begin rebuilding everything they've lost.

**Social Security Administration**

Presented by: Mary Lisa Lewandowski  
Regional Administrator, Seattle/Denver Region

**Cathy Waterbury**

After 60 Workload Support Unit employees were sent home from the Auburn Teleservice Center to quarantine, Operations Supervisor Cathy Waterbury remained behind to send and receive items that could not be communicated electronically or over the phone. Over the past year, she ensured thousands of Americans had their retirement claims processed timely. The extra duties she took on kept her unit running smoothly, including scanning thousands of documents, and mailing innumerable notices to the public. She created guidance and processes to ensure the mail was organized and the public's privacy was protected. Cathy's hard work supporting and supervising employees, including trainees, while keeping the mail up-to-date, was key to keeping her unit operating and meeting the agency's mission.

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security,**  
**U.S. Customs and Border Protection**

Presented by: Brian Humphrey  
Director, Seattle Field Office

**Lisa Beth Brown**

ADFO Brown has led the way among her peers in taking on the role of COVID Ambassador for the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Seattle Field Office. Her efforts have made her the lead CBP point of contact for the coordination and administration of COVID-19 vaccinations to priority CBP law enforcement personnel in the state of Washington. Working with entities across the Department of Homeland Security and the Office of the Governor, as well as with county public health officials throughout the state, she was instrumental in identifying options for facilitating the timely delivery of vaccines to 1A and 1B employees utilizing CBP EMT's to administer the vaccine.

In coordination with Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Ms. Brown worked with the pharmacy to administer 171 vaccines to CBP personnel and at an ad-hoc vaccine site in Ferndale, WA. She has worked with port managers to launch a lottery system for vaccinations and the establishment of stand-by lists. Ms. Brown was responsible for reporting the status of vaccinations and identification of positive COVID cases to the CBP COVID Coordination Center. This reporting is vital to support CBP's planning and response to COVID-19.

To further protect our force, she coordinated a mass vaccination event at the Seattle Field Office which resulted in 479 vaccines administered to Customs and Border Protection, US Border Patrol, Air & Marine and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Officers and Agents. Her tireless efforts, leadership, and management are highly deserving of this recognition.

**Brian Kooiker**

In June of 2020 Brian Kooiker developed a new process for the Seattle Field Office (SFO) that captures numerous pieces of data previously unsearchable for each Trade NAFTA applicant that is either approved or denied within the entire Field Office. This invaluable information has been used to successfully identify accurate numbers of Trade NAFTA applicants that have been adjudicated within the SFO, trends, patterns of fraud, and national security intelligence. Due to the success, all pre-clearance ports of entry as well as the Buffalo Field Office have implemented the process while Detroit and Boston Field Offices are currently considering implementation.

# U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Presented by: Michelle L. Pirzadeh  
Acting Administrator, Region 10

## Training Team

**(Joann Mills, Anne Dalrymple)**

New employees to EPA Region 10 are offered two trainings to better understand their strengths, communication style, and how to leverage these with teammates. These classes are interactive, dynamic opportunities for new staff to learn more about themselves, each other and how to thrive in the workplace. With 100% telework and screen time at a premium, the team tailored these day-long trainings to fit the new virtual environment, preserving the interactivity and effectiveness while learning the new and evolving video teaming software. Given the success of the trainings, this dynamic duo has been asked to provide training across the Agency.

## Boiler Team

**\*EPA Region 10/Lab Services and Applied Sciences Division (LSAD)**

**(Stephanie Bailey, David Minisci, Barry Pepich)**

**\*EPA Region 7/Mission Support Division (MSD)**

**(Donald Denno, Arlo Hurst, Leeanna Balsley)**

**\*EPA HQ/Office of Mission Support (OMS)**

**(Daniel Amon)**

This Team developed and executed a multi-year plan to convert the EPA Laboratory's diesel-fired boilers to natural gas. The project will abate over 500,000 lbs of greenhouse gases annually and save EPA ~\$1,600,000 over 20-years. Complex easement negotiations were required with 3 entities and saved \$300,000 in construction costs. The project employed an infrequently used GSA authority, allowing the pipeline construction costs to be amortized over a 7-year period and charged back under the utility bill. By utilizing this mechanism, the project is cost neutral the first seven years. The long-term benefits to the environment and substantial out-year cost savings are noteworthy.

### **EMB Contracts Team**

**\*EPA Region 10 (Myrna Jamison, Courtney Smith, Randy Nattis, Brandon Perkins, Eric Vanderboom)**

**\*EPA Region 7 (Scott Dandy, Leeanna Balsley, Koni Fritz)**

This nomination is in recognition of the extraordinary efforts of the EPA Region 10 Emergency Management Program contract re-procurement teams who work under extraordinarily difficult circumstances to ensure the timely award of two multi-year, multi-million-dollar contracts to support Region 10's emergency response program. These teams also managed the transition to these new contracts during COVID and in the midst of an unprecedented level of emergency response work, including response to the 2020 Oregon wildfires, addressing significant risks to human health and the environment.

### **Elizabeth Pendleton**

Elizabeth Pendleton, Project Officer, has been a leader in EPA Region 10 Superfund acquisitions. She recently assisted with the transition to the Remedial Action Framework contracts. Her guidance, expertise, and commitment assisted with successfully transitioning work from existing contracts for over 20 projects representing several million dollars of work, coordinating with EPA's Contracting Officer Representatives to minimize impacts, and ensuring that they developed the knowledge and skills to be successful and comply with the Federal Acquisitions. This could not have been completed without Elizabeth. We are grateful for her commitment and excellence she brings to this work each day.

### **Quality Assurance Team**

**(Meghan Dunn, Don Matheny, Karin Feddersen, Raymond Wu, Donald Brown)**

In FY20, utilizing process improvement, innovation, and efficiency tools, the EPA Region 10 Quality Assurance Team approved 98% of State and Tribal Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPP) within 60 days and reduced the number of required QAPP revisions by 22%, despite a total workload increase of 23% from FY19. The team developed electronic workflow tracking tools, improved the quality and consistency of QAPP review comments, documented work practices and established a process for elevating issues to management and standardized customer service responses.

**Internal SOPs/Communication Efficiency Team**  
**(Emily Steinbach, Erika Valencia)**

The Internal SOPs/Communication Efficiency Team created standard templates for common internal standard operating procedures documents such as Fact Sheets, Briefing Documents and Project Plans using a technique called “information mapping.” Information mapping a skill that requires training and often special software to be effective so the number of people using the techniques are limited. By designing templates in the information mapping format in software currently available to all employees, this team was able to share the innovation and efficiencies of the communication technique while saving money. Templates are now stored in local shared folders for use by anyone in the organization.

**Ted Repasky**

Ted Repasky, an EPA hydrogeologist, provided technical assistance that changed the course of two large Superfund cleanup projects. At the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station site, Ted assured that EPA had accurate vertical migration data for a dioxane and vinyl chloride plume that migrated off-site and into residential neighborhoods. His investigation and mapping of the plume helped support important decisions affecting drinking water in Oak Harbor, Wa. At the Fairchild Air Force Base site, Ted made important technical and public health contributions involving perfluoroalkyl substances in drinking water. He recommended collection of samples in the deep aquifer at the site, resulting in the discovery of down-gradient domestic well concentrations above the EPA health advisory for these pollutants.

**Puget Sound Team**

**\*EPA Region 10 (Angela Adams, Lisa Chang, Ann Dunn, Catherine Gockel, Sally Hanft, Diane Hennessey, Erik Peterson, Michael Rylko, Melissa Whitaker, Andrea Bennett, Mark Romelli, Andrea Manion, Nora Chan-Chau, Michael Underwood, Ricardo Solis)**

**\*United States Geology Survey (USGS) (Bill Labiosa)**

EPA's Puget Sound Team provides a unique service for the important mission of overseeing the recovery of a precious national resource - our Puget Sound Estuary. A team of policy, science and collaborative experts works across the federal family with state, tribal and other partners to develop and implement a comprehensive collaborative approach to maintain healthy salmon and orca populations - an economic and cultural engine for the region's more than 4.7M residents and tribal peoples. EPA has administered over \$350M leveraging more than \$1B to help communities improve water quality and habitat while supporting local jobs.

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security,**  
**Transportation Security Administration**

Presented by: Roger Cullen  
Supervisory Federal Air Marshal

**DHS/TSA/LE-FAMS**

Providing security for the President, Vice President, his/her Cabinet and their families is a difficult task, so much so that an entire agency (the United States Secret Service (USSS)) is charged with its execution. This past year, the USSS's job became exponentially more difficult and strained, and multiple sister agencies, including our own, took up the call and lent support. The request for assistance required our members to receive training from the USSS, deputation from the United States Marshal Service, and give a commitment to serve for an indeterminate amount of time, with no more than two days' notice before each deployment.

While several members of the Seattle Field Office were willing to make this sacrifice, four were in fact called to action, and we honor their commitments to service. Beginning as early as September 2020, each one deployed for 1-2 month stretches, working each day anywhere from 8-12 hours a day. The Seattle Field Office assisted this mission in both Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles, CA (residence of Vice President Kamala Harris). Members of the Field Office were also in Washington, D.C. on January 6th, ensuring the safety of the VP Harris's residence.

Application of our law enforcement professionals in this capacity demonstrated on a national level our utility, our flexibility, our competence, and our professionalism. Each of them appreciated the gravity of the request and the unique difficulties associated with the assignment, yet took up the call without hesitation; they represent our greatest qualities, and are deserving of our utmost respect and appreciation.



**U.S. Department of Commerce,**  
**Economic Development Administration**

Presented by: Chris Cox  
Administrative Director/Seattle Regional Office

**Ramon Perez**

In July 2020 in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Economic Development Administration Seattle office had 2 senior leadership positions retire unannounced. This placed a significant impact on the staff as the positions were occupied for 10+ years. Leadership quality was critical at this time during a pandemic to enable the office to overcome new operational tempos such as work-from-home and technology challenges with internal and external customers. Ramon Perez stepped up to the calling and filled in for 8 months as the Acting Administrative Director. In this capacity he provided administrative guidance to the regional office at a time when the office staff and workload more than doubled in size to support COVID-19 and Disaster response efforts. His leadership had a direct impact on regional staff's ability to perform their work in a pandemic environment. Ramon's efforts bring a continued credit upon himself and the Economic Development Administration.

# **U.S. Department of Homeland Security,** **Federal Emergency Management Agency**

Presented by: Vincent Maykovich  
Acting Regional Administrator, Region 10

## **Debris Taskforce**

**\*Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**  
**(Clay Miller, Trevor Jordan, Lauren LaMontagne, Craig Martin, Gary Brand,**  
**James Fox, Michael Young, Gay Bow, Cathy Robinson)**

**\*Oregon Dept of Emergency Management**  
**(Julie Slevin, Stan Thomas)**

**\*Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**  
**(Randy Nattis, Matt Magorrian)**

**\*United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)**  
**(Jennifer Chang, George Minges, John Fogarty, Cory Koger)**

As a result of the unprecedented 2020 Oregon wildfires and the subsequent presidential declaration, FEMA Region 10 formed a debris taskforce within the Public Assistance program to address and fund immediate threats to life, safety, and property. The debris taskforce coordinated with State and local partners to ensure limited resources focused on priority projects. Due to the magnitude of the destruction caused by the wildfires, the State needed federal assistance to remove some of the hazardous debris. The taskforce developed and managed a unique \$21.8 million mission assignment to the Environmental Protection Agency for the remediation of hazardous debris from destroyed structures in affected communities. Additionally, the taskforce jointly developed a scope of work and cost estimate for the removal of vegetative wildfire debris along roadways across the state. Through coordination with key partners and sister agencies, the taskforce was able to quickly provide assistance to state and local governments, enabling thousands of survivors work toward recovery from an overwhelming disaster.

**Erosion Threat Assessment/Reduction Team (ETART)**

**\*Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  
(Kelsey Madsen)**

**\*National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)  
(Katherine Rowden)**

**\*United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)  
(Daryl Downing)**

**\*Forest Service  
(Cara Farr, David Callery)**

The Erosion Threat Assessment/Reduction Team (ETART) is nominated for their unprecedented collaborative approach to assessing and reducing the potentially catastrophic post fire threats of flooding and mudslides on non-Federal publicly and privately owned lands after the devastating Oregon Wildfires of September 2020. This was an extremely challenging and unique mission that required superb leadership, communication skills, technical expertise, and coordination amongst all levels of government and non-governmental organizations to analyze and ameliorate immediate risks across vast regions of western Oregon. These collaborative efforts included over 100 staff from more than 20 state and federal agencies. Specific resource reports were compiled by hydrologists, botanists, arborists, road engineers, geologists, soil scientists, cultural and heritage specialists, and water quality experts. As a result of the team's efforts, dozens of projects to protect life, public safety and improved property across publicly and privately owned lands from dangerous fire related flooding, debris flows, and mudslides have been or are being funded through multiple programs with varying requirements by various federal, state, and other agencies.

### **Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) Team**

**(Nathan Mosurinjohn, Beau Bradley, Justine Smith, Michelle Kato, Nicolas Granum, Mariko Kobayashi, Lisa Moon, Craig Martin, Trevor Stanley, Laurie Fielder, Laura Gothro)**

During Labor Day week 2020, several Fire Duty Officers fielded a record-breaking number of Fire Management Assistance Grant Declaration requests in Region X – WA: 5; OR: 15 (specifically, handling 18 requests over the course of 4 days). Our Fire Duty Officers, Fire Management Assistance Grant program lead, and Public Assistance management had to provide quick answers to policy questions and adjust our traditional process to accommodate the increase in the number of requests coming in at one time. These individuals worked closely with our state partners and Principal Fire Advisors, who are our technical advisors, to expedite requests to ensure that all requests were processed in a timely fashion. Our state partners were being flooded with information that was constantly changing and was hard to confirm without aerial footage. Recognizing this our Fire Duty Officers, Fire Management Assistance Grant program lead, and Public Assistance management developed a streamlined process through email, text messages, and brief phone calls with our state partners and the Principal Fire Advisor to capture the necessary information to present to the Regional Administrator. This innovative process included a bulk Fire Management Assistance Grant program declaration request submission via email (like a verbal request) that identified several fire names, some key information about each fire to enable FEMA to process these requests as well as verbal concurrence of the threat from the Principal Fire Advisor. The official forms would be provided later when the catastrophic fire conditions subsided and the firefighters started engaging in fire suppression activities and not lifesaving and safety activities.

### **Trevor Stanley**

Trevor Stanley, FEMA, Region X is nominated for his extraordinary contributions to the federal effort to protect residents and citizens in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Mr. Stanley took on the extremely challenging role of leading FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) program for the states and tribes in Region 10, ultimately supervising the obligation of \$800 million of financial assistance to impacted jurisdictions. This effort included making 40 local hires, which resulted in the Agency's lowest ratio of impacted communities to FEMA PA customer support managers. His innovative strategy increased the speed and efficiency of award making, maintained a flexible federal workforce, and provided an opportunity for employment to citizens in our Region. FEMA's Public Assistance program provides critical funding to eligible entities who protect the public from the effects of COVID-19 by reimbursing eligible costs for equipment, supplies, and staff time expended in response to the pandemic. As a result of Mr. Stanley's efforts, his team has been able to fund hundreds of projects executed by state, local and tribal governments, as well as certain eligible private non-profits, to protect life, health, and public safety.

## **FEMA Integration Team**

**(Justin Salus, Andrew Jahier, Justin Fordice, Vince Cacanindin)**

FEMA Region 10 National Preparedness Division | Plans and Assessments Branch | FEMA Integration Team: Their extraordinary coordination efforts contributed to three case studies related to COVID-19 response operations, soon to be published on the FEMA.gov website. Two studies highlighted how preparedness grants had been used to invest in capabilities that supported Idaho's and Washington's COVID-19 response. The other case study analyzed the FIT's (launched in 2017 and embedded in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington state emergency management offices) impact, challenges, and lesson learned during the COVID response. Data was derived from the group interviews with state, local and federal agencies to achieve desired outcomes. These case studies will be critical contributions in working with state, local and tribal governments to execute a whole-of-America response to disasters.

**U.S. Department of Transportation,**  
**Federal Transit Administration**

Presented by: Linda Gehrke  
Regional Administrator, Region 10

**Region 10 Covid-19 Response Team**

**(Mark Assam, Jeremy Borrego Amy Changchien, Ned Conroy, Debbie Ensor, Misti Epps, Susan Fletcher, Jeff Horton, Abhishek Koirala, Annette McKelvey Chris Macneith, Derek Oh, Scot Rastelli, Steve Saxton, Sarah Skeen, Mark Stojak, Kristy Ziglar)**

The Region 10 Covid-19 Response Team (the Team) rose to the challenge of the increased workload and shifting working conditions to effectively deliver support to the Region's transit agencies during the Covid emergency. While processing a record amount of regular grants, they processed an additional 61 CARES Act grants, help plan the delivery of face masks and vaccines to transit workers, and kept our transit agencies informed of changes to FTA oversight procedures in response to the pandemic. Our transit agencies rely on FTA funding for a large portion of their operating and capital budgets. During the Covid emergency, Region 10 processed 265 grants worth \$2.2 billion.

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,**  
**Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services**

Presented by Darryl N. Means, MHA  
Regional Administrator, Seattle

**Ronald Moore**

Mr. Moore is the CMS Seattle Office Liaison for Congressional Offices throughout the Northwest region. He exemplifies professionalism and pride in performance by ensuring Congressional staff receive appropriate training and support. He works closely with Congressional staff to ensure timely responses to questions and provides training to keep the staff up to date regarding CMS' processes and procedures; ensuring beneficiary questions and Medicare issues are answered quickly. He also provides CMS program training to Congressional staff. The impact of Mr. Moore's efforts reflects great credit on the Department, CMS, and the customers we serve, enabling the Congressional staff to provide more effective responses to constituent questions that come to their office.

# **U.S. Customs and Border Protection,** **Office of Professional Responsibility**

Presented by Paul Crawford, Special Agent in Charge, Seattle

## **Customs and Border Protection Investigations Team**

During the Summer of 2020, thousands of protestors descended on Portland, OR. A significant number of violent opportunists embedded themselves with those protestors, vandalizing federal property and assaulting federal law enforcement officers attempting to protect federal buildings. US Customs and Border Protection's Office of Professional Responsibility established a remote office in Portland, OR and investigated thousands of uses of force by CBP personnel. Additionally, the investigations team investigated numerous allegations of misconduct. Once CBP operations in Portland concluded, the investigations team reviewed thousands of hours of video and thousands of pages of documentation, conducted dozens of follow up interviews and prepared each incident for presentation to a Special Use of Force Review Board held during March of 2021.

## **Field Technology Specialist**

During the Summer of 2020, thousands of protestors descended on Portland, OR. A significant number of violent opportunists embedded themselves with those protestors, vandalizing federal property and assaulting federal law enforcement officers attempting to protect federal buildings. US Customs and Border Protection's Office of Professional Responsibility in Seattle, WA was tasked with investigating 100% of uses of force and allegations of misconduct by CBP personnel operating in Portland. In a matter of days, a Field Technology Specialist of CBP's Office of Information Technology, made multiple down and back trips to Portland delivering and setting up a remote CBP network in a forward operating office.

## **Deputy Incident Commander**

During the Summer of 2020, thousands of protestors descended on Portland, OR. A significant number of violent opportunists embedded themselves with those protestors, vandalizing federal property and assaulting federal law enforcement officers attempting to protect federal buildings. Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) served as the Deputy Incident Commander and oversaw the investigation of several thousand uses of force. Following the end of CBP operations in Portland, ASAC oversaw the preparation and presentation of each use of force to a national Special Use of Force Review Board. His leadership, attention to detail, tireless efforts and unwavering dedication to the mission have resulted in high quality, thorough and concise presentations to the board.

### **Mission Support Team**

During the Summer of 2020, thousands of protestors descended on Portland, OR. A significant number of violent opportunists embedded themselves with those protestors, vandalizing federal property and assaulting federal law enforcement officers attempting to protect federal buildings. US Customs and Border Protection's Office of Professional Responsibility in Seattle, WA was tasked with investigating 100% of uses of force and allegations of misconduct by CBP personnel operating in Portland. In a matter of days, the mission support team worked tirelessly to assist in setting up a remote office in Portland by coordinating logistics, acquiring facilities and getting the investigations team everything it needed to effectively execute the mission.



**U.S. Department of Commerce,**  
**International Trade Administration**

Presented by: Diane Mooney  
Director, U.S. Commercial Service, Seattle

**Washington Export Outreach Team (WEOT)**  
**U.S. Commercial Service (USCS)**  
**Diane Mooney; USCS: Lisa White; U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)**  
**Cathy Griffith, Mark Costello, Lee Gibbs, John Brislin;**  
**EXIM Bank: Sandra Donzella, Abby Martinez;**  
**U.S. Department of Agriculture: Jeff Peterson;**  
**U.S. Minority Business Development Agency: Linda Womack**  
**U.S. Foreign Agriculture Service: Maria Dorsett;**  
**Export Finance Assistance Center of WA: Zara Castillo;**  
**Washington State Department of Agriculture: Julie Johnson;**  
**Western U.S. Agricultural Trade Association: Lisa Hokanson;**  
**Washington Small Business Development Center (WSBDC)**  
**Ellie He, Vern Jenkins;**  
**Washington State Department of Commerce: Karl Dahlgren**

Formed in 2014, the Washington Export Outreach Team (WEOT) is a statewide collaborative team of federal, state, and nonprofit agencies and associations. Their mission is to help Washington state exporters, especially small businesses, grow their businesses internationally and create U.S. jobs. In addition to acting as a comprehensive service referral network for exporters throughout the year, WEOT traditionally hosts quarterly in-person trainings all over the state. Early spring of 2020 found most government agencies learning and experimenting with how to deliver their services to the public in an all-new virtual world due to the global pandemic. Although participating in WEOT is not a primary role for any of the members of the team, in a collaborative federal-state-nonprofit effort, WEOT members came together to reformulate their annual strategic outreach plan and put together a schedule of online trainings to continue connecting with small business exporters throughout the state. WEOT's online training programs connected small businesses to vital business services during a challenging economic time to help keep doors open and deliver bottom line economic results to the U.S. economy. Despite challenges and disruptions, WEOT has risen to the challenge and is on track to meet their quarterly outreach goals with a new and continuously evolving online format.

# **U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Coast Guard**

Presented by: RADM Anthony Vogt

## **Coast Guard 13th District Public Affairs Team**

**(Russell Tippetts, William Colclough, Steven Strohmaier, Michael Clark, Read Levi, Trevor Lilburn)**

The Coast Guard 13th District Public Affairs Team needed to create a way to communicate messages of resiliency with Coast Guard members across the Pacific Northwest during the COVID-19 pandemic. The team developed a communication plan utilizing existing Coast Guard social media accounts to support risk communication to develop, implement and monitor an effective action plan for communicating effectively to Thirteenth District Coast Guard active, reserve and auxiliary members, dependents, civilians and contractors to help prepare and adjust the new “normal” lifestyle for individuals and families during response to COVID- 19. Throughout the month of May in 2020, the team helped ensure members were aware of where and how they could access mental health and psychosocial support services and facilitate access to such services.

They showcased supervisors and team leads who were facing similar stress as their members and receiving additional pressures relating to the responsibilities of their role. It is important for supervisors and team leads to implement and lead by example self-care strategies to mitigate stress. They develop infographics, information, and articles to the workforce daily through coaches and experts to address both emotional and practical support. They assisted with helping families and individuals adjust to the new normal by creating drafted schedules and effectively communicate how important routines are in a daily life through info graphics. They assisted in helping members adjust to teleworking through info graphics on best practices. They also shared simple facts daily on well-being helps to reduce risk stress, anxiety, abuse on family members, and alcohol abuse. Utilizing existing social media accounts resulted in no funds being needed to execute this plan and it was all executed electronically resulted in no harm to the environment.

### **USCG Base Seattle COVID-19 Vaccination Team**

**(Khalid Jaboori, Daniel Lindner, Daniel Waddingham, Patricia Green, Kristopher McGhee, Jedidiah Johnson, Jason Rodriguez, Chelsey Ortiz, Macaluso Macaluso, Emmanuel Lopez, Ashkey Sarkisian, Tyler Jaap, Gregory Likhachev, Marten Zagunis, Homero Pandula, Ryan Wolterbeek, Jade McCormick, Kimberly Anderson, Courtney Hunt, Amanda Lassiter, Ivana Odum, Stephanie Heesacker)**

This team worked tirelessly to complete required training and plan for the distribution and administration of the vaccine prior to its arrival. They verified multiple rosters to develop a schedule that prioritized our front line operators who were at this highest risk of exposure. Their efficient logistics distribution plan provided vaccines for up to 100 members per day. The team supported over 14 units that included operational commands and staff elements within the Puget Sound area. Ultimately, the team administered 2,640 vaccines, which significantly improved the safety of our personnel and our ability to sustain operational missions.

### **The Coast Guard District 13 COVID-19 Incident Management Team**

#### **\*Coast Guard Team**

**(CAPT Charles Guerrero, CAPT Nathan Coulter, CAPT Patrick McElligatt, CDR Jeannette Peters, CDR Martin Schell, LCDR Trisha Jantzen, LCDR Kenneth Walton, LCDR Nicolas Iannarone, LCDR Patrica Green, LCDR Kent Catlin, LCDR Michelle Foster, LT Mark Leahey, LT Logan Huffman, LT Chad Coppin, LT Bryce Kessler, LT Stephen Hoback, LT Pete Howard, LT Russel Tippets, LT Alana Timulak, LTJG Katie Matha, LTJG Abigail Culp, OSS2 John Eastman, Mr. Bob McFarland, Mr. Ricardo Rodriguez, Mr. Scott Giard, OSCM Chris Schulte, EM1 Aaron Haynes, ME1 Matthew Tommie, SK1 Chad Cruz, YN1 Paul Boyd, MST2 Ted Ohman, YN3 Darin Rogers)**

#### **\*Navy Team**

**(LT Lucy Lu)**

The Coast Guard District 13 COVID-19 Incident Management Team has steadily worked to track and manage emergency response readiness and maritime domain health and safety to protect maritime recreation and commerce throughout the 13th Coast Guard District over the course of the worldwide pandemic. This Seattle based team oversaw the execution of workforce mitigation policies, resource allocations, contact tracing programs, administration of vaccines, and COVID-19 testing programs to minimize the impact of COVID-19 on the workforce and the maritime community. Through their work, the Coast Guard has maintained the highest standard of excellence in all missions throughout the Pacific Northwest.

**U.S. Department of Human Health and Services,**  
**Administration for Children and Families**

Presented by: Nikki Hatch  
Regional Administrator

**Paycheck Protection Program Loan Application Virtual Workshops**

**\*Administration for Children and Families (ACF)**

**(Kim Burgess Simms, Mary Myslewicz, Varonica Wagner, Julie James, Charlotte Olsen, Sherly Valdivia, Tim Hill, Nikki Hatch, Cathy Jackson, Sarah Stafford, Paul Noski, Joshua Lee, Sandra Bustamonte , Payton Bordley, Jocelyn Ostrowski, Rylee Maguire, )**

**\*Small Business Administration (SBA)**

**(Norma Lucero, Al Haut, Frances Padilla, Brent Donnelly, Jaime Wood, Marla Trollan, Amy Lea, Jeff Salzer, Sam Goldstein, Kerrie Hurd, Janie Sacco, Nelida Irvine, Irene Gonzales )**

**\*\*Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco  
(Craig Nolte)**

Child care is essential to the functioning of the entire economy, and when the pandemic shut down the economy, small child care businesses were devastated, suffering to stay afloat with fewer kids in care, increased costs in cleaning and staffing, and unpredictable government subsidies. To support these struggling businesses, the Administration for Children and Families Office of Regional Operations in Denver and Seattle partnered with Small Business Administration and Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco leaders to host Paycheck Protection Program Loan Application Virtual Workshops for child care providers. Approximately 800 providers attended presentations and Q&A sessions with SBA experts from Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Colorado. Spanish translation was available and resources were sent out in English, Spanish, and Somali.

# U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Presented by: Eric Darius  
Enforcement Supervisor

## **Bryne Moore**

Bryne Moore is an exceptionally hardworking and dedicated investigator with a vast amount of knowledge about the enforcement and ligation of discrimination claims of employees by their employers. Bryne pursues justice with unmatched abilities. She has identified and investigated a number of cases that have had a significant impact across the vast geographical coverage of the Seattle Office, and particularly in the State of Oregon. Several of her investigations have led to agency litigation, which has a broad impact in addressing discrimination in the workplace. Significant cases she has investigated addressed discrimination based on disability, sexual harassment, and pregnancy.