



**FLASH MENTORING**

**CIGIE LDS-LIFT Flash Mentoring Event  
February 24, 2021**



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# LOGISTICS

February 24, 2021  
1:00 pm – 3:45 pm (Eastern)  
[Join the Gov for Zoom Meeting](#)

We are expecting about 100 oversight professionals to attend.

## **Schedule and Speaker Overview**

- Attendees can begin logging in at 12:45pm.
- The event will begin at 1:00pm.
- There will be a brief introduction, a keynote speech, five rounds of speaker panels concurrent with one-on-one mentoring sessions, a closing speech, and a conclusion.
- The event will end at approximately 3:45pm.

## **Event Logistics**

During each of the five rounds, two mentors will be speaking on a panel in the “main room,” while ten other mentors are providing one-on-one mentoring sessions in breakout rooms.

In between each round, mentors and participants will be moved in and out of the one-on-one breakout rooms. If you are scheduled for a one-on-one mentoring session, you will be transitioned into a breakout room before your round begins and back into the main room after it ends (no action is needed on your part). These brief transition periods will provide participants an opportunity to network with others via the chat.

## **Technical Support**

Call 833-ZOOM-GOV (833-966-6468) and a representative will help you troubleshoot. You can also visit the CIGIE LDS-LIFT Flash Mentoring Event Portal [HERE](#) and scroll down to the bottom for troubleshooting tips.



# EVENT AGENDA

## **1:00 PM - Welcome & Opening**

Kevin Watts, Assistant Director of Leadership and Mentoring Programs, CIGIE

## **1:05 PM - Keynote Speaker**

George Scott, Deputy Inspector General, NASA OIG

## **1:15 PM - Event Overview**

Mona Mann, Management Analyst, NASA OIG and CIGIE LIFT Communications Team Lead

## **1:25 PM - ROUND 1**

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### ***Making it Easier to Say the Tough Stuff***

Amanda Seese Whelan, AIG for Strategic Communications and Programs, DOT OIG and CIGIE LIFT Advisor

### ***The 3 C's of Your Professional Development Journey: Curious, Crafty, Connected***

Brian Sano, Director of Organizational Health, State OIG

### **Flash Mentoring**

(Breakout Rooms)

## **1:45 PM - ROUND 2**

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### ***Deciding When to Move on for Growth***

Suzann Gallagher, AIGI, USAID OIG

### ***Leading Large, Multidisciplinary Teams in the OIG Law Enforcement Community***

Brian Grossman, AIGI, SBA OIG

### **Flash Mentoring**

(Breakout Rooms)

## **2:05 PM - ROUND 3**

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### ***Authentic Leadership~ Leading by Example***

Francine Hines, Acting AIG for Management Services, DOE OIG

### ***The Importance of Mentors and Networks in Maturing Leadership***

Aaron R. Jordan, AIGI, DOE OIG



# EVENT AGENDA CONT.

## **Flash Mentoring**

(Breakout Rooms)

**2:20 PM - Break**

**2:30 PM - ROUND 4**

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### ***Try New Things, You May Like Them... or Not***

Kim Benoit, AIGA, NASA OIG

### ***The Value of Communication and Diverse Experience***

Darrell E. Benjamin, Jr., Acting AIGA, DFC OIG

## **Flash Mentoring**

(Breakout Rooms)

**2:50 PM - ROUND 5**

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### ***Top 3 Tips for Successful Conflict Resolution***

Nicole Angarella, General Counsel to the IG, USAID OIG

### ***Being a New Supervisor and a New Employee at the Same Time***

David S. Johnson, AIGI, VA OIG

## **Flash Mentoring**

(Breakout Rooms)

**3:10 PM - Closing Speaker**

Rae Oliver Davis, IG, HUD; CIGIE Professional Development Committee Chair and CIGIE LIFT Executive Sponsor

**3:30 PM - Conclusion**

Kevin Watts, Assistant Director of Leadership and Mentoring Programs, CIGIE



## **NICOLE L. ANGARELLA**

**General Counsel to the Inspector General  
U.S. Agency for International Development OIG**

Nicole Angarella serves as the General Counsel to the Inspector General at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). In that position, Ms. Angarella leads a team of attorneys and specialists that provide independent legal

counsel to the Inspector General, Deputy Inspector General, senior managers, and staff. Her office provides comprehensive legal advice, research, and guidance to the Offices of Audit, Investigations, and Management within USAID OIG.

Prior to her appointment as general counsel, Ms. Angarella served as a senior legal counsel at USAID OIG and at the Department of Transportation's OIG. Ms. Angarella has spent her entire Federal career in the Inspector General community. She is an active member of the Council of Counsels to the Inspectors General (CCIG) and was recently elected Chair of that organization.

Before joining the Federal Government, she worked as an associate attorney in the General Litigation & White Collar Criminal Defense Practice Group at Cozen O'Connor, an international law firm representing corporate and individual clients in Federal investigations and complex criminal and civil matters. She also worked as an associate attorney specializing in employment and labor relations law at a law firm in Washington, DC.

Ms. Angarella has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Mary Washington and a law degree from the Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America. Ms. Angarella is a member of both the Virginia State Bar and the District of Columbia Bar. When she is not at work, Ms. Angarella loves to travel and spend time with her family, especially her twin daughters and goldendoodle. When she is not traveling for work or pleasure, Ms. Angarella lives with her family in Arlington, Virginia, and can be found at home on Sundays cooking for her Italian family's tradition of "Sunday family dinner."



## **DARRELL E. BENJAMIN, JR.**

### **Acting Assistant Inspector General for Audit Development Finance Corporation OIG**

Darrell Benjamin, Jr. has served as Acting Assistant Inspector General for Audit at the Development Finance Corporation OIG since November 2020. Prior to his current role, Mr. Benjamin was Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Mission Operations at the U.S. Postal Service OIG, which he joined in 1998. The mission of USPS OIG is to prevent, detect, and report fraud, waste, and misconduct, and promote efficiency in Postal Service operations.

Darrell has held various audit director and executive level positions within the Postal Service OIG in both the financial and operational audit areas. In his Postal Service, Mission Operations role, his teams performed audits related to the Postal Service's transportation and mail processing network.

Darrell is a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Internal Auditor, and has a Master of Arts in Management. He is a member of the American Institute of CPAs and the Institute of Internal Auditors.



## **KIM BENOIT**

**Assistant Inspector General for Audits**

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration**

Kimberly Figel Benoit serves as the Assistant Inspector General for Audits at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) OIG. In this capacity, she oversees auditors, analysts, and support personnel responsible for conducting independent and objective audits, reviews, and other examinations to improve the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness and to identify waste and mismanagement in NASA programs, projects, operations, and contractor activities. In addition, she oversees the work of the independent public accountant in its audit of NASA's financial statements. She has previously worked at the U.S. Postal Service and U.S. House of Representatives Offices of Inspector General in audit and investigative capacities.

Ms. Benoit received her M.B.A. with a concentration in accounting from Ohio University and her undergraduate degree in accounting with a minor in leadership studies from Marietta College, located in Marietta, Ohio. She is a Certified Fraud Examiner and Certified Public Accountant. She has presented on topics such as workplace diversity, information security, and data analytics both domestically and abroad.





## **MONIQUE P. COLTER**

### **Assistant Inspector General for Audit AmeriCorps OIG**

Monique P. Colter has been the Assistant Inspector General for Audit at the Corporation for National and Community Service, Office of Inspector General, operating as AmeriCorps OIG, since November 2018. She oversees the Audit Section and leads the work of

audit managers, auditors, and audit contractors. Ms. Colter began her Federal career with the student cooperative education program at the Internal Revenue Service and progressed as an internal revenue agent reviewing complex large corporation tax returns. She then served the Office of Inspector General at the United States Postal Service where, as an audit director, she led teams that examined multiple Postal Service programs.

Ms. Colter received a bachelor's degree in accounting from South Carolina State University. She is a Certified Public Accountant licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia and a member of the Association of Government Accountants.



## SUZANN GALLAGHER

**Assistant Inspector General for Investigations  
U.S. Agency for International Development OIG**

Suzann Gallagher serves as USAID's Assistant Inspector General for Investigations. In this capacity, she provides oversight of financial crimes, fraud, and other criminal activity impacting USAID, as well as the U.S. African Development Foundation, the Inter-American Foundation, and the Millenniums Challenge Corporation. To carry out this mission, she oversees a global workforce from Washington, D.C., with sub-offices located in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean. She first joined USAID in 2018 at the Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Investigations.

Prior to joining USAID OIG, Ms. Gallagher worked as a special agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS), serving as the Special Agent in Charge of the Middle East Field Office, among other leadership positions. Her experience with NCIS included directing counterintelligence, counterterrorism, procurement fraud, and criminal investigations and operations throughout the Middle East, Southwest Asia, East Africa, Europe, and the National Capital Region.

Ms. Gallagher began her federal career with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, establishing local volunteer emergency response teams and supporting interagency emergency response coordination.

Ms. Gallagher's awards include a Joint Civilian Service Commendation Award, a Meritorious Unit Commendation for her role in the response to the 2013 shooting at the Washington Navy Yard, the Women in Federal Law Enforcement (WIFLE) Leadership Award, and a Department of Defense Counterintelligence Field Activity Counterintelligence Investigation Team Award. She also was the recipient of the Award for Excellence in Teaching from the University of Notre Dame. She attended Cornell University and graduated with Bachelor of Arts degree in History. She also holds a Masters in Arts in Education from Columbia University and a Masters in Arts in Medieval Studies from the University of Notre Dame.



## **BRIAN GROSSMAN**

### **Assistant Inspector General for Investigations U.S. Small Business Administration OIG**

Brian Grossman is the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) OIG. In this capacity, he leads SBA OIG's national operations to investigate allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, and other criminal activity in SBA programs and operations. Mr. Grossman has over 36 years of federal law enforcement experience, with the last 17 years being with the OIG community.

Mr Grossman spent 28 years on active duty (1975 – 2003) with the US Army, the first nine of those years as an airborne paratrooper stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He began his federal law enforcement career in 1984 as a special agent and later special agent-in-charge with the United States Army Criminal Investigation Command (CID) with assignments in Germany; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Bragg, North Carolina and Washington, DC., where he primarily investigated and supervised homicide and sexual assault investigations, many of which had national media interest. During his 19 years with CID, he also had tours working in undercover narcotics and two tours (1986 – 89 and 1995 – 97) on the protection detail for the Secretary of Defense.

After retiring from the Army in 2003, Mr. Grossman joined the OIG community, first with an assignment as the Eastern Region Chief (Special Agent in Charge) with the Defense Logistics Agency Criminal Investigations (2003-2005) and later with the Investigative Policy & Oversight division of the Department of Defense Inspector General where he conducted oversight reviews of homicide / death investigations conducted by the Military Criminal Investigative Organizations. In 2010, Mr. Grossman accepted a position with the Department of the Interior OIG where he conducted criminal and administrative investigations into allegations of misconduct by senior officials and supervisory law enforcement personnel throughout the Department. In 2015, Mr. Grossman was selected as the Special Agent in Charge of the Middle East, Europe and Africa Division of the Department of State OIG and in 2017 he was appointed into the Senior Executive Service as the Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Investigations.



## **FRANCINE HINES**

**Acting Assistant Inspector General for  
Management Services**

**Department of Education OIG**

Francine Hines serves as the Acting Assistant Inspector General for Management Services for the Department of Education OIG. Ms. Hines is responsible for leading support operations for the OIG's budget, human resources functions, administrative operations, and its diversity, equity, and inclusion initiative.

Ms. Hines has more than 20 years of government and private sector experience leading business and management operations. Throughout her career, Hines has reengineered programs and processes to reduce costs and improve performance. She has also led her teams in resolving human capital problems to promote an inclusive workplace, encourage optimal effort, and continuously develop staff to improve and sustain support operations.

Prior to joining the OIG in December 2019, Hines worked at the United States Postal Service. During this tenure, Hines served in the capacity of Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Mission Support, Director of Budget and Financial Operations and Director of Audit Services.

Hines has received numerous awards for her work, including a CIGIE Award for Excellence, Distinguished Achievement Awards, and Exceptional Performance Awards. Hines is active in the inspector general community and currently represents the OIG on the Performance, Recognition and Awards Sub-Committee for the CIGIE Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Work Group.

Ms. Hines earned her BA in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting from Bowie State University and a Masters in Information Technology from the University of Maryland. Ms. Hines is a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Government Financial Manager, and Certified Lean-Six-Sigma.



## **JAMES R. IVES**

### **Assistant Inspector General for Investigations National Aeronautics and Space Administration**

James R. Ives currently serves as Assistant Inspector General for Investigations at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Office of Inspector General. In this capacity, he oversees a cadre of special agents, investigative auditors, technical investigators, and support personnel responsible for conducting criminal, civil, and administrative investigations involving NASA programs, personnel, and operations.

Mr. Ives has 28 years of Federal law enforcement experience. Before joining NASA OIG in 2015, he served with the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (the criminal investigative arm of the U.S. Department of Defense's OIG) for 22 years. From 2004 through 2014, culminating in his appointment as Assistant Inspector General for Investigations.

From January 2019 through April 2019, Mr. Ives served on a detail assignment as Acting Inspector General of the U.S. Government Publishing Office. He served as a U.S. Immigration Inspector from 1992 through 1994, and served as a special agent with the U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service from 1998 through 1999. He also previously served as a reserve special agent with the U.S. Coast Guard Investigative Service. He received an honorable discharge in 2006.

Mr. Ives currently serves as the chair of CIGIE Assistant Inspector General for Investigations committee. In this capacity, he serves as a conduit between Assistant Inspector Generals for Investigations serving at all federal OIGs and CIGIE's Investigations Committee.

Mr. Ives is a 2005 graduate of Georgetown University, where he earned a Master of Public Policy degree, and a 1992 graduate of State University of New York, College at Brockport, where he graduated summa cum laude with a B.S. in Criminal Justice and a minor in Psychology. He is a 2017 graduate of Harvard University's Senior Executives Fellows program. He is also an adjunct professorial lecturer at American University and an adjunct associate professor at University of Maryland's Global Campus (UMGC).





## DAVID S. JOHNSON

**Assistant Inspector General for Investigations  
Department of Veterans Affairs OIG**

David Johnson is the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations at the Department of Veterans Affairs. In this capacity, Mr. Johnson oversees criminal and civil investigations involving fraud, waste, and abuse at the second-largest federal agency. He is responsible for managing the headquarters office, seven regional field offices, and over 30 resident agency offices composed of more than 200 special agents and other specialized staff.

Mr. Johnson previously served for over a decade as a federal prosecutor. He was an Assistant Chief in the Fraud Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division, as well as an Assistant United States Attorney and Health Care Fraud Coordinator at the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia. Mr. Johnson also served as an Assistant Chief Litigation Counsel at the Securities and Exchange Commission. He began his career as an associate at an international law firm and a law clerk for the Honorable Rosemary M. Collyer on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

Mr. Johnson received his B.A. in Government from the University of Virginia and J.D. from William & Mary Law School. He previously served as an adjunct law professor at Georgetown University Law Center.



## AARON R. JORDAN

**Assistant Inspector General for Investigations  
Department of Education OIG**

Aaron Jordan is the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations at Department of Education OIG. Jordan is responsible for leading all investigative operations. A law enforcement professional with more than 27 years of law enforcement experience,

Jordan joined the OIG in 2013 after spending seven years with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) where he served as the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations. During his tenure at the PBGC, Aaron performed an 18-month detail as an Executive Advisor for Investigative Programs as well as Acting Deputy Assistant Inspector General for the Central Intelligence Agency. During the detail, Jordan managed high-profile, sensitive investigations involving personnel, programs and operations. He also completed a reorganization of the Office of Investigations, implemented new policy guidance, and created performance objectives and measures for the office.

Jordan began his law enforcement career with the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, where he conducted investigations involving complex contract and procurement fraud, health care fraud, and corruption. He then moved to the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) OIG where he held a number of progressively responsible positions, including Supervisory Special Agent of the Contract Fraud team, Director of Health Care Fraud Investigations, and Special Agent in Charge of the Strategic Enforcement Division.

Assistant Inspector General Jordan has received numerous awards, including the USPS OIG Special Agent of the Year and the Assistant U.S. Attorney's Office Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. Jordan also served as the Chair of the CIGIE Assistant Inspector General for Investigations Committee.

Jordan earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the College of the Holy Cross and a Master of Policy Management from Georgetown University.



## **RAE OLIVER DAVIS**

### **Inspector General**

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

Ms. Rae Oliver Davis was sworn in as Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on January 23, 2019. As Inspector General, Ms. Oliver Davis is the senior official responsible for audits, evaluations, investigations, and oversight efforts relating to HUD's programs and operations to ensure integrity, economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in these programs. The HUD OIG is one of the original 12 Inspectors General authorized under the IG Act of 1978.

Prior to her position as Inspector General, Ms. Oliver Davis was appointed as the Acting Assistant Inspector General in February 2017. In that capacity, she was responsible for the oversight of the Office of Special Inquiry (OSI) within the OIG. OSI conducts sensitive investigations regarding waste, fraud, and abuse of HUD programs and the conduct of its employees.

She has served nearly a decade in the Inspector General community. Before joining the Office of Inspector General for HUD, she served as chief investigative counsel for the Office of the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (SIGTARP). SIGTARP is an independent federal law enforcement agency under the U.S. Department of Treasury that targets financial institution crime. She also served in the Office of the General Counsel for the Office of the Inspector General for the U.S. Postal Service.

Ms. Oliver Davis served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee from 2002 to 2007. She also served as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Tennessee from 1999 to 2002. Earlier in her career, Ms. Oliver Davis served on the then U.S. Senate Governmental Affairs Committee and the U.S. House Government Reform and Oversight Committee.

Ms. Oliver Davis received a J.D. from the University of Memphis, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law and a bachelor's degree in political science from Murray State University.





## **BRIAN SANO**

**Director of Organizational Health  
Department of State OIG**

Brian Sano is the Director of Organizational Health for the Department of State OIG, a position he has held since 2018. His role involves connecting business brains (strategy/mission) with human hearts (employee engagement/professional and personal development). Through coaching, mentoring, and providing executive-level advice, he leads efforts to cultivate a culture that supports staff members' sense of purpose, curiosity, inclusion, and belonging, while driving innovative results. He inspires a shared vision and empowers others as leaders (hint: anyone can be a leader, regardless of position) by building psychological safety, collaboration, and trust. Through learning and developing trainings and initiatives, he helps people thrive and reach their true potential personally and professionally.

Since 2017, Mr. Sano has served as an Executive-Leadership Coach with the Treasury Executive Institute. In this role, he encourages and empowers clients and colleagues to explore and see things from a fresh perspective, helping them reach their true potential through powerful questions, active listening, and other coaching and design thinking skills.

From 2012 through 2018, Mr. Sano served as the Senior Policy Advisor for the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, where he provided executive-level advice on strategic direction, planning, and communication to agency officials and teams to effectively reach and impact key stakeholders. Before joining the IG community, Mr. Sano served as Senior Counsel at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Division of Enforcement, and a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of New York. He has also worked as a Senior Associate at the international law firm WilmerHale and as a Media Planner at McCann Worldgroup.

Mr. Sano earned a J.D. from the American University Washington College of Law and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy from Hamilton College. He is a life-long learner committed to living and leading with a "growth mindset." His "Why" statements is: To care for and celebrate others, so they can lead creative, meaningful, and cheerful lives.



## **GEORGE A. SCOTT**

**Deputy Inspector General**

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration OIG**

Mr. Scott became NASA's Deputy Inspector General in June 2018 after over 30 years of experience at the Government Accountability Office. He assists the Inspector General in managing the full range of OIG activities and supervises the Assistant Inspectors General and Counsel in the development and implementation of the OIG's audit, investigative, legal, and support operations.

Prior to joining NASA, Mr. Scott served as Managing Director of GAO's Homeland Security and Justice Team. He oversaw GAO's work on Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice programs and operations. This included efforts to secure our nation's borders and infrastructure; and strengthen emergency preparedness and response capabilities. He has significant oversight experience with management, acquisition, financial management, and human capital issues. Mr. Scott also led oversight efforts on a range of justice programs and grants.

Prior to becoming Managing Director, George was responsible for leading engagements on education issues. This included reviews of school reform initiatives, Indian education, charter schools, STEM programs, and federal student aid programs.

Early in his GAO career, George led a body of work on employee benefit plans, including reviews of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, as well as Labor and IRS oversight of pension plans. This work resulted in important legislative and regulatory changes as well as improved accountability for federal programs and funds.

George is an experienced speaker; he has testified numerous times before Congress and presented at a range of conferences and training events.

George graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He received several GAO honors including the Distinguished Service Award, Meritorious Service awards, Client Service Award, the John Henry Luke Mentoring Award, and the Richard J. Hillman Human Capital Award.



## AMANDA SEESE WHELAN

### Assistant Inspector General for Strategic Communications and Programs

#### Department of Transportation OIG

As principal for Strategic Communications and Programs, Amanda Seese Whelan oversees a variety of activities that provide strategic value, critical advice, and mission support across DOT OIG. The Office of Strategic Communications and Programs encompasses several, frequently interdependent program areas with high external and internal impact, including Budget and Financial Management; Government and Public Affairs; Civility, Diversity, and Inclusion; Communications; Organizational Development; and Administrative Professional and Executive Assistant Services.

Ms. Seese Whelan began her career in government oversight and auditing at the U.S. Government Accountability Office in 2006. She then moved to Computer Sciences Corporation in Arlington, VA, where she helped the Missile Defense Agency enhance its relationship with government auditors. She rejoined the Federal auditing ranks at the Office of Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, where she reviewed homeowner retention programs.

Ms. Seese Whelan joined DOT OIG in 2010 as a Senior Analyst and was soon promoted to Project Manager, leading audits focused on the Department of Transportation's rail, maritime, and transit programs. Four years later, she became DOT OIG's first New Hire Workforce Development Manager; in that role, she centralized the onboarding process and designed the New Employee Orientation Program, which has since helped welcome and integrate hundreds of staff members. From 2015 to 2019, she served as the organization's Chief of Staff, helping the Inspector General and Deputy Inspector General conduct collaborative strategic planning, implement decisions to meet mission needs, and manage day-to-day operations.

Her achievements have been recognized by awards from the Secretary of Transportation and the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. In October 2018, she received DOT OIG's highest honor, the Inspector General's Distinguished Service Award, in recognition of her achievement of results with a lasting impact and her commitment to the core values of "Mission First, People Always."

Ms. Seese Whelan holds a bachelor's degree in broadcast news from Kent State University.