



Press Release

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27th Annual SEA Banquet Honors Distinguished Executives Responsible for Saving Government Over \$36 Billion

SBA Administrator Karen Mills to Deliver Keynote Address

Washington, D.C. – Recipients of the nation's highest civil service awards, the Presidential Ranks of Distinguished Executive and Distinguished Professional, will be announced and honored by the Senior Executives Association (SEA) at the group's 27th annual black tie Distinguished Rank Awards Banquet held on April 26. A review of the accomplishments detailed in the 2011 award winners' nominations reveals they have saved the federal government over \$36 billion. (A list of the winners is attached.)

The banquet, sponsored by the Senior Executives Association Professional Development League, will be held at the State Department Diplomatic Reception Rooms. Administrator of the Small Business Administration Karen Mills will deliver remarks.

Only one percent of the Senior Executive Service is eligible to receive the rank of Distinguished Executive; one percent of executives in Senior Level and ST (Scientific and Professional) positions may receive the rank of Distinguished Senior Professional.

Dignitaries expected to attend the event include:

The Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, Jr., Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services William Corr, Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs W. Scott Gould, Under Secretary of the Army Dr. Joseph Westphal, Solicitor General Donald B. Verrilli, Homeland Security Under Secretary for Management Rafael Borras, Under Secretary of State for Management Patrick Kennedy, and OPM Director John Berry.

SEA's President Carol A. Bonosaro will recognize some of the recipients' notable achievements in her remarks:

- Providing expert legal advice and assistance to Secretaries Paulson and Geithner and drafting the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008.
- Leading R&D which has yielded improved nuclear and biological sensors – including technology that can be incorporated into soldier backpacks, ground vehicles, or helicopters - new drugs for medical countermeasures, and weapons designed to penetrate caves and tunnels.
- Coordinating a multi-agency effort in response to the devastating earthquake in Haiti, enabling individuals with critical injuries to enter the US for urgent, life-saving medical treatment.
- Forming the architecture of two historic programs for control of toxic emissions from cars, trucks and buses. One eliminated air pollution equivalent to removing 166 million cars from the road.

- Leading a team of lawyers that settled 7 years of litigation and two adverse court decisions that had prevented FAA from retaining \$76 million in overflight fees from foreign air carriers.
- Leading the Army's largest Base Realignment and Closure move, involving 11,000 employees across 25 states.
- Being a world leader in the science of fire phenomena; his research program has resulted in all mattresses sold in the US now burning at less than 1/10th the rate of prior mattresses and in the current requirement for aircraft cabin lining material that poses minimal fire threat in a survivable crash.
- Overseeing the \$61 billion FHA insured portfolio and rental assistance of over \$9 billion; she reduced multifamily housing loan processing time by almost 40% without an increase in resources but a three-fold increase in volume.
- Protecting 38 Endangered Species and 3 dozen affected National Wildlife Refuges following the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.
- Administering Social Security programs to 57 million people with monthly payments of \$13 billion; his customer service surveys consistently show a 98% overall satisfaction rating.
- Helping to intercept a satellite in decaying orbit which posed a threat to populated areas; his analysis enabled a pinpoint intercept which struck the satellite within centimeters of the calculated aimpoint.
- Meeting every deadline in implementing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, utilizing \$48 billion to fund more than 15,000 projects in all 50 states.
- Running a state-of-the-art Spinal Cord Injury and Disorder Center and a Cardiac Surgery Center performing over 400 procedures annually while consistently attaining low mortality and morbidity outcomes as compared to similar centers, both in and outside of government.
- Containing the spread of contaminated corn in the \$25 billion corn market stemming from the first occurrence of the unauthorized release of a genetically-modified grain.
- Arguing more than 110 cases in the Supreme Court, including the Elian Gonzalez case and the recent health care case – more than any other lawyer currently practicing before the Supreme Court.
- Leading the inter-Service working groups responsible to implement repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.”
- Leading the Hyper-X/ X-43A Return to flight, developing and demonstrating technologies for hypersonic aircraft. The second flight set a world speed record of Mach 7; the even more complex third flight 8 months later set a new record of Mach 10.
- Standing up and leading the new Army Contracting Command, the first time in history that an SES member was put in charge of a military command, with personnel in 117 worldwide locations, awarding and managing \$97 billion of contractual actions each year, 19% of all Federal contract dollars.
- Being the first non-physician to lead CDC’s Washington operations; he was chosen as one of three executives – and the only career executive – to lead the Administration’s Global Health Initiative, a \$63 billion, 80 country plan to save millions of lives from infectious diseases like malaria and TB and neglected diseases such as leprosy.
- Developing and executing a new intelligence community-wide analytical effort, the China Strategic Initiative, which has been called the model for integrative analysis. One of our nation’s leading experts on China, his work has had a profound effect on U.S. strategy and policy towards that country.

- Establishing the nation's first VA and DoD federal health care center, with over 400 beds and over 1,000,000 projected annual outpatient medical and dental visits, providing a seamless transition of care from being a DoD patient to being a VA patient.
- Implementing a standard accounting system at the 52 insurance companies that process and pay the claims to almost 2 million health care providers, the largest accounting system in the world.
- Developing and continuing to improve the Internet Time Service, which is built into major computer operating systems and synchronizes clocks in computers and network devices more than 4 billion times every day. Users range from millions of Americans with radio-controlled clocks automatically set to NIST time by radio broadcasts, to those who need timing accuracy to better than a billionth of a second per day for navigation, precision instruments, telecommunications, radar and other surveillance.
- Overseeing and validating geospatial intelligence strategy and methodologies applied in the final pursuit of and successful raid on the Osama bin Laden compound in Abbottabad.

The Senior Executives Association (SEA) is a professional association representing Senior Executive Service members and other career federal executives. Founded in 1980, SEA's goals are: to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and productivity of the federal government; to advance the professionalism and advocate the interests of career federal executives; and to enhance public recognition of their contributions. The SEA Professional Development League (PDL) is a nonprofit educational organization committed to advancing the professionalism of career federal executives through the sponsorship of training, recognition, and research activities.

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