

The Honorable Jayson P. Ahern

Principal



Areas of Focus:

- Homeland and Border Security Management
- Global Commerce and Supply Chain Security
- Crisis and Risk Management, Strategy and Implementation
- Global Security and Capacity Building
- Counter Narcotics Planning and Operations
- Government Reorganizations and Merging of Agencies

Previous Government Service:

- Acting Commissioner, U.S Customs and Border Protection (2009)
- Deputy Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (2007-2009)
- Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (2003-2007) and U.S. Customs Service (2002-2003)

On January 2, 2010, Jayson P. Ahern retired from 33 years of federal service to both the U.S. Customs Service and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. At the time of his retirement, he had served for nearly a year as Acting Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and was responsible for securing, managing and controlling our Nation's borders.

Since August 2007, Mr. Ahern served as CBP's Deputy Commissioner, the highest career position in the agency. During his interim appointment as Acting Commissioner, Mr. Ahern continued to serve as Chief Operating Officer, overseeing the daily operations of CBP's 58,000 employee workforce and managing an operating budget of over \$11 billion. Mr. Ahern's primary focus was keeping terrorists and terrorist weapons out of the country, while also carrying out CBP's other border-related responsibilities.

For five years, from June 2002 until August 2007, Mr. Ahern served as the Assistant Commissioner for CBP's Office of Field Operations, a position he also held with the former U.S. Customs Service. As Assistant Commissioner, Mr. Ahern managed all Field Operations in domestic and foreign locations, as well as critical national security and operational programs. In 2003, when the Department of Homeland Security was created, Mr. Ahern presided over the historic merger of personnel from three of CBP's legacy agencies and ensured mission continuity during the largest government reorganization in the last 50 years.

Throughout his career, which spanned over parts of four decades, he progressed through every rank in the field and held numerous senior leadership positions, including Director of Field Operations in San Diego, where he was in charge of all Customs activities at the Southern California ports of entry. He also served as the Area Port Director in Los Angeles and Miami, two of the Nation's largest and busiest operations. Mr. Ahern also served in senior counter-drug positions during two previous Headquarters assignments, overseeing planning and interdiction operations in the U.S. as well as conducting training assignments in many foreign locations.

In 2005, President Bush conferred the rank of Distinguished Executive on Mr. Ahern in recognition of his extraordinary leadership and management contributions to the United States government. In 2007, he received the Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award for outstanding service and contributions toward global maritime security. In November 2008, Mr. Ahern was awarded the Secretary of Homeland Security's Gold Medal in recognition of exceptionally outstanding leadership and service that is distinguished by achievements of national or international significance, reflecting great credit on the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Government by markedly improving the security of our homeland.

Mr. Ahern was a career member of the Senior Executive Service, a graduate of Northeastern University and a Senior Executive Fellow at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He is married and has two sons.