



Honor Awards Program

FEBRUARY 2024
HERBERT C. HOOVER AUDITORIUM

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75TH *Honor Awards Program*

HERBERT C. HOOVER BUILDING AUDITORIUM
1401 Constitution Avenue NW

February 6, 2024

INTRODUCTION

Jeremy Pelter
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Armed Forces Color Guard

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Stacy F. Hoffman

WELCOME

Don Graves
Deputy Secretary

ADDRESS

Gina Raimondo
Secretary of Commerce

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS

Jeremy Pelter
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration

PRESENTATION OF GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS
Secretary Raimondo assisted by Department Officials





Message from the Secretary

Welcome to the 75th Annual Department of Commerce Honor Awards.

For three-quarters of a century, the Commerce Department has recognized employees for their distinguished performance with Gold and Silver Honor Awards. These awards represent our appreciation for those who have gone above and beyond to deliver for America's businesses, families, and communities.

The public servants who are receiving awards this year have used their talent, expertise, and extraordinary work ethic to make progress on a broad range of issues that are core to America's success. Because of their dedication, these exceptional employees have enabled the Commerce Department to fuel innovation, protect our country, and ensure that every community in America has the opportunity to grow and flourish.

Congratulations to all of this year's Honor Awards recipients. You are inspiring models of public service, and I'm proud to work alongside you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gina Raimondo".

Secretary Gina Raimondo
U.S. Secretary of Commerce





GOLD MEDAL

This award, the highest honorary award given by the Department, is granted by the Secretary for distinguished performance characterized by extraordinary, notable, or prestigious contributions that impact the mission of the Department and/or one or more operating units.



SILVER MEDAL

This award, the second highest honorary award given by the Department, is granted by the Secretary for exceptional performance characterized by noteworthy or superlative contributions that have a direct and lasting impact within the Department.

To warrant a Gold or Silver Medal, a contribution must focus on qualitative and quantitative performance measures reflected in the Department's Strategic Plan and be identified in one of the following areas:

Leadership

Personal and Professional Excellence

Scientific/Engineering Achievement

Organizational Development

Customer Service

Administrative/Technical Support

Heroism

Bureau of Economic Analysis



GOLD MEDAL CUSTOMER SERVICE

**Amy Filipek
Aya Hamano
Sabrina Montes**

*Regional Product Division
Bureau of Economic Analysis*

The group is honored for ensuring equitable access to comprehensive, consistent, and reliable measures of Puerto Rico's economy. They worked with the territory's government and private sector to overcome data limitations and ensure that BEA's Puerto Rico statistics are on par with its state gross domestic product (GDP) statistics. They translated the full package of Puerto Rico GDP materials into Spanish for the first time, while speeding up its production by two months. They provided critical information for policy decisions and economic development as the territory recovers from natural disasters and a pandemic.



SILVER MEDAL CUSTOMER SERVICE

**Matthew VonKerczek
Ralph Rodriguez
John Laffman
Alexander Adams
Brian Maisano
Kendra Asher
Todd Siebeneck
Melanie Carrales
Michael Berry
Sharon Panek**

*Regional Income Division
Bureau of Economic Analysis*

The group is honored for combining the quarterly estimates of states' gross domestic product (GDP) and personal income into a single release, providing a more holistic picture of state economies. They developed new processes and improved existing ones to calculate, review, and analyze both sets of data together, improving the accuracy and reliability of essential state statistics. Businesses, policymakers, and the public now benefit from a fuller, more timely understanding of the regional differences underlying the U.S. economic picture and the interplay between industries, production, and incomes in each state.

Bureau of Industry and Security



GOLD MEDAL
PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Michael Zaborowski
Todd Harris
John Masters
Patrick Withrow
Patrick Stanton
Carlos Monroy

*Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Export Enforcement
Bureau of Industry and Security*

Opher Shweiki
Adrienne Frazier
Adam Berry
Jeff Beatrice

*Office of the Chief Counsel
for Industry and Security
Office of the General Counsel*

The members of this group award are honored for their extraordinary work on BIS's first enforcement action for violations of the Foreign-Produced Direct Product Rule (FDPR). Using innovative investigative and analytic techniques, the team uncovered 429 violations of the FDPR by Seagate Technology for exports to sanctioned Chinese telecom firm Huawei. The investigation resulted in the Department imposing a \$300 million Administrative penalty and a five-year suspended Denial Order against Seagate Technology, demonstrating that violators of the FDPR will be held to account.



GOLD MEDAL
PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Carlos Monroy

*Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Export Administration
Bureau of Industry and Security*

Mr. Monroy is honored for his central role in the interagency and multilateral negotiations to identify tools critical for advanced semiconductor production. His professional excellence, over the course of a year, was essential to reaching agreement with allied supplier governments to restrict exports of those critical tools. This coordinated approach, agreed to by the National Security Advisors of the relevant governments, protects U.S. national security by ensuring U.S. and allied technology leadership in advanced semiconductor technologies.

Bureau of Industry and Security



GOLD MEDAL

PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Richard J. Fitzpatrick III
Jason Rhoads
Sonya Dorsey
John Isbell

*Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Export Administration
Bureau of Industry and Security*

This group is honored for the investigation and disruption of a Chinese procurement scheme that supplied U.S.-origin technology to Iranian unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). A joint OEE/OEA investigation uncovered that China-based Beijing Unistrong Science and Technology Co. (BUST) had acquired an Arizona-based company that manufactured celestial navigation motherboards using controlled U.S. technology. Working with Export Administration, the group devised a joint BIS Entity Listing of BUST and a Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S. (CFIUS) action to divest the U.S. company, thus cutting off the flow of technology to Iranian UAVs.



GOLD MEDAL

PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Teresa Telesco
Kyle Norris
Laura Laucius

*Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Export Enforcement
Bureau of Industry and Security*

Adam Berry
Kimberly Hsu

*Office of the Chief Counsel
for Industry and Security
Office of the General Counsel*

Steven Hammond
Elizabeth Blanch

*Global Markets
International Trade Administration*

The group is honored for identifying and implementing a policy to address situations when foreign governments interfere with BIS's ability to conduct end-use checks, thereby creating an unacceptable risk of diversion or misuse of U.S. items and undermining U.S. national security and foreign policy interests. Should BIS be unable to conduct an end-use check due to foreign government interference, this policy and subsequent regulation changes lead to the listing of persons on the Unverified List and ultimately the Entity List, adding license requirements and improving adherence to the Export Administration Regulations.

Bureau of Industry and Security



GOLD MEDAL
**PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

Brian Baker
F. Sean Ghannadian
ByungJoon Oh
Aaron Amundson
Anita Zinzuvadia
Timothy Mooney
Sharron Cook
Leah Vidovich
David Boylan
Javier Montalvo

*Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Export Administration
Bureau of Industry and Security*

This group is honored for its role in identifying items essential to the design and production of advanced semiconductors needed for supercomputers and artificial intelligence. The group's professional excellence resulted in major changes in export controls to protect U.S. national security and prevent key advanced technologies from being acquired by countries of concern.



GOLD MEDAL
**PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

Kevin Coyne
Anna Bruse
Kate Koren
Alexander Werner
William Schworer
Javier Montalvo
Yvette Springer
Katharine Huang

*Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Export Administration
Bureau of Industry and Security*

This group is honored for its dedication and excellence in efforts to measure, evaluate, and improve the effectiveness of export controls enacted in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. By providing data-driven analysis to U.S. and coalition policymakers, the group contributed to strengthening global coalition export controls thereby reducing the Russian military-industrial base and Russia's ability to sustain its war of aggression.

Bureau of Industry and Security



SILVER MEDAL
PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

**Office of National Security and
Technology Transfer Controls
Office of Strategic Industries and
Economic Security
Office of Nonproliferation and
Treaty Compliance**

*Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Export Administration
Bureau of Industry and Security*

In response to Russia's brutal aggression and incursion into the territory of Ukraine, this group formulated and implemented precisely tailored procedures to expedite the delivery of U.S. controlled commodities, software, and technology to Ukrainian government and civilian entities, for those entities' protection in their efforts to counter Russian aggression. Their efforts resulted in the swift issuance of billions of dollars of export authorizations during the award period and provided the U.S. Government with a timely means of supporting Ukraine.



SILVER MEDAL
PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Garrett Greer

*Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Export Enforcement
Bureau of Industry and Security*

Special Agent Garrett Greer is honored for meeting the Department's strategic goal to "administer and enforce export controls...to protect against inappropriate use of U.S. technologies." Mr. Greer led a three-year investigation working collegially with interagency partners, including U.S., Latvian, and Estonian officials, to prevent the illegal export of a dual-use high-precision device to Russia. His work resulted in numerous indictments and a court-ordered forfeiture of \$826K in funds used during the transaction.



United States Census Bureau



GOLD MEDAL LEADERSHIP

Alfred O. Gottschalck
Bethany S. DeSalvo
Michael J. Martin
Heather Suzanne King
Lauren Bowers

*Office of the Associate Director
for Demographic Programs
U.S. Census Bureau*

Michael Bentley
Suzanne McArdle
Elise Alkire
Kevin John Hawley

*Office of the Associate Director
for Decennial Census Programs
U.S. Census Bureau*

The team is honored for cross-agency/division work to create tools to help policymakers plan and implement programs for digital inclusion and equity that support the work of NTIA. As covered by the Digital Equity and ACCESS BROADBAND Acts, the DEA Population Viewer shows the percentage of population in each geography who are covered, allowing users to locate and understand unserved and underserved populations. The ABA Dashboard combined multiple data sources in a mapping tool to enable researchers to assess changes in economic conditions based on changes in broadband availability and adoption.



GOLD MEDAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Shadana Marie Sultan
Bernadece Anntoinette Boda
Charles Edward Tippeconnic
Jessica Anne Imotichey
Christie Ann Hernandez
Vicki A. McIntire
Cathy Lynn Lacy
Marilyn A. Sanders
Julie A. Lam
Willette Allen

*Office of the Associate Director
for Field Operations
U.S. Census Bureau*

The group is honored for using their diverse experience to successfully launch and implement the inaugural year of the Tribal Relations Program. The program led to improved tribal relations in support of both current surveys and the Decennial Census, increased awareness of Census products, and enhanced cultural awareness of Census staff when engaging with Federal and State Tribes and Urban Indian partners. Their work has significantly improved the Bureau's overall relationships with Tribal Nations and has advanced data equity for this historically undercounted population.

United States Census Bureau



GOLD MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Scott A. Scheleur
Rebecca Lynn Weaver
John M. Hatley
Emma Paige Reburn
Paul A. Bucchioni
Kristen S. Corwin
Mason C. Herman
Deanna Weidenhamer
James W. Hunt
Sunitha Joseph Cherussery

*Office of the Associate Director
for Economic Programs
U.S. Census Bureau*

The group is honored for the creation of an experimental real dollar data product that accompanies the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey (MWTS) indicator each month. The group developed a methodology to leverage published U.S. Census Bureau data and Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) price index data to create these important estimates. The new product marks the first-ever real dollar wholesale estimates produced by a U.S. statistical agency, provided at an historical inflationary time for the U.S. economy when price fluctuations made the interpretation of economic indicator data incredibly challenging for policy makers and other stakeholders.



GOLD MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Alexandra R. Krause
Zoe Caplan
William K. Koerber
Evan M. Brassell
Thomas Anthony Gryn
Christopher J. Boniface
Andrew W. Roberts
Paul Douglas Jacobs
Alli S. Coritz
Jessica Elaine Pena

*Office of the Associate Director
for Demographic Programs
U.S. Census Bureau*

The group is honored for the development of innovative strategies and analysis to maintain the fitness for use of the 2020 Census data while modernizing disclosure avoidance methods. The newly strengthened methods required extensive tuning to achieve a balance between privacy and accuracy. Subject matter experts worked with data users to collect use cases and feedback and collaborated with data scientists to achieve this balance, making possible the release of protected detailed tables with critical data for topics included in the 2020 Census.

United States Census Bureau



GOLD MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Michael B. Hawes
Kenneth Haase
Philip Daniel Leclerc
Ryan R. Cumings
Pavel Zhuravlev
Brian H. Finley
Rolando Rodriguez
Michael Joseph Walsh

*Office of the Associate Director
for Research and Methodology
U.S. Census Bureau*

Cynthia Davis Hollingsworth

*Office of the Associate Director
for Decennial Census Programs
U.S. Census Bureau*

Matthew Spence

*Office of the Associate Director
for Demographic Programs
U.S. Census Bureau*

The team is honored for pioneering work, developing the TopDown Algorithm (TDA) to protect the confidentiality of the 2020 Census Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (DHC). The ~7.5 trillion statistics in the DHC that make these data so valuable for the nation pose substantial privacy risks. The innovative TDA balances privacy and accuracy needs. A world-class standard was set for privacy-enhancing techniques in data releases. TDA application to the DHC was critical, allowing this invaluable data product to be published in a way that also protects the privacy of the American public.



GOLD MEDAL

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Moises Yi
Stephen Richard Tibbets
Patrick Hayward
Chaoling Zheng
Jody Alexander Hoon-Starr

*Office of the Associate Director
for Research and Methodology
U.S. Census Bureau*

Camille Norwood
Kevin Liu

*Office of the Associate Director
for Economic Programs
U.S. Census Bureau*

The Puerto Rico Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) team is honored for overcoming a language barrier and significant data quality concerns to produce and release the inaugural QWI for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. These new statistics provide publicly available employee demographics and employer characteristics of Puerto Rico's workforce to a diverse user community including policy makers. Puerto Rico now has access to detailed workforce data not available elsewhere.

United States Census Bureau



SILVER MEDAL
LEADERSHIP

John Magruder
Terrina L. Long
Cindy Loren Smith
George A. Potak
Ronald Nelson Wright Jr.
Shelley T. Moody

*Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
U.S. Census Bureau*

Lisa J. Paulson
Crystal Wade

*Office of the Associate Director
for Communications
U.S. Census Bureau*

Lisa McInnis
Janel D. Howard

*Office of the Chief Information Officer
U.S. Census Bureau*

The group is honored for developing the plan to close the Suitland Federal Center (SFC) and simultaneously relocating mission critical Census Bureau operations to the Bowie Computer Center (BCC). To prepare for the Census Reimagined (CRI) renovation project, the group was given 3 weeks to vacate the building in preparation for the start of demolition of Census spaces. This leadership team created and managed the plan to remove all remaining personnel, materials, equipment, and furniture from SFC, while also standing up continuing operations at BCC to ensure no disruptions in service.



SILVER MEDAL
LEADERSHIP

Barbara A. Downs
Nathan Andrew Ramsey
David N. Beede
Leanna Mellott
Ashley Denele Landreth
William Arthur Yates
Pamela L. Harris
Kathryn McNamara
Heather Madray

*Office of the Associate Director
for Research and Methodology
U.S. Census Bureau*

The team is honored for the innovative design and launch of a Standard Application Process (SAP), a cross-government tool to enable data discovery and accept, adjudicate, and monitor requests for access to restricted-use data assets for statistical analysis and evidence building. SAP revolutionizes processes for requesting use of federal data assets and provides transparency in research project activity. SAP ensures efficient and transparent access to federal data assets by data users.



United States Census Bureau



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING
ACHIEVEMENT

Rebecca Lynn Weaver
Katherine J. Thompson
Tucker McElroy
Jose G. Asturias

*Office of the Associate Director
for Economic Programs
U.S. Census Bureau*

Daniel Summers
Rebecca J. Hutchinson
William R. Bell

*Office of the Associate Director
for Research and Methodology
U.S. Census Bureau*

The group is honored for the exemplary creation and deployment of the Census Bureau Index of Economic Activity (IDEA). IDEA is an aggregation of 15 of the Census Bureau's primary economic data series that provides a single time series constructed from a weighted combination of these monthly series. IDEA is updated daily, incorporating the most recent values for each component series, including new estimates and revisions of previous estimates. Through its scope and frequency, IDEA provides a new resource for assessing the economy and a signal for what is on the horizon.

Economic Development Administration



GOLD MEDAL LEADERSHIP

**Scott Andes
Alex Jones
Rachael Sun
Todd Fisher
Michele Chang
Maria Messick**

*Office of the Assistant Secretary
Economic Development Administration*

**Jeff Roberson
Chris Anderson**

*Office of Chief Counsel
Economic Development Administration*

The group is honored for managing the Build Back Better Regional Challenge (BBBRC). The group, the BBBRC team, was responsible for ensuring success of the overall competition. Not only did the team run an efficient and fair process, it established a number of new, innovative practices that have now been adopted by other federal agencies. Despite the speed of operations, the team's focus on equity ensured each of the winning coalitions brought significant community buy-in, translating into more equitable economic outcomes across the country.



SILVER MEDAL LEADERSHIP

**Lauren Starks
Carla Garrett
Patrick Bourke
Todd Fisher
Leopold Spohngellert
Michele Chang
Maria Messick**

*Office of the Assistant Secretary
Economic Development Administration*

Jasmine Gunter

*Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Economic Development Administration*

Nancy Eyl

*Office of Chief Counsel
Economic Development Administration*

Ryan Servais

*Office of Regional Affairs
Economic Development Administration*

The group is honored for exceptional leadership in the creative, rapid, nimble, and innovative implementation of the Good Jobs Challenge program. To stand up this brand-new, large-scale, and high-visibility grant program, in a new arena for the EDA, the team developed creative processes, tools, protocols, and program structures, while deploying exceptional customer service across all phases. This has injected needed resources in communities across the U.S. and inspired best practices for workforce programs across EDA and the Department.

Economic Development Administration



SILVER MEDAL
LEADERSHIP

Chivas Grannum

*Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Economic Development Administration*

Ms. Grannum is honored for creatively, adaptably, and rapidly developing and delivering plans, processes, tools, and training to standardize and improve EDA's management of the Build to Scale Program. Her design and execution of this team amid uncertainty and change enabled EDA to increase the efficiency, effectiveness, and consistency of its grants management processes while freeing EDA program staff to focus on strengthening our economic development programs and their impact.



SILVER MEDAL
LEADERSHIP

Aminata Kamara

*Office of Regional Affairs
Economic Development Administration*

Ms. Kamara is honored for her exceptional leadership in the successful implementation and analysis of the Non-Infrastructure Metrics System (NIMS). NIMS is an innovative approach to measuring the impacts of EDA's non-infrastructure grants investments, allowing EDA to measure the effectiveness, for the first time, of the non-infrastructure grants awarded under all of its regular non-construction programs. In addition to measuring performance, NIMS also helps EDA to tell a more compelling story about the impacts of its economic development investments in communities across the country.

Economic Development Administration



SILVER MEDAL
LEADERSHIP

Milton Cochran
Dwendolyn Chester
Julianne Kingery
Trisha Korbass
Apurva Naik
Frances Sakaguchi
Chad Eggen
Bianca Quinones Otero
Janelle Schindler

Office of Regional Affairs
Economic Development Administration

The group is honored for their efforts in leading EDA's deployment under the Economic Recovery Support Function (ERSF) to drive recovery in areas impacted by natural disasters in Kentucky, Montana, New Mexico, Washington, Florida, Missouri, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. Each team member leveraged extensive knowledge of local needs and perspectives to ensure that assistance was effective, expeditious and impactful. Their hard work will have ongoing positive impacts on communities as federal agencies continue to respond to the economic impacts caused by the disasters.



SILVER MEDAL
CUSTOMER SERVICE

Ernest Weston
Trent Thompson
Jamie Hackbarth
Ali DeMersseman
Aaron Pratt
Carolee Wenderoth
Caleb Seeling

Office of Regional Affairs
Economic Development Administration

The team is honored for implementing a new approach to tribal engagement that dramatically improved the EDA Denver Regional Office's impact in distressed and historically underserved Tribal nations. Recognizing that over time the number of applications and investments to distressed tribes was on a steady decline, EDA's Tribal Engagement Coordinator, and the office's Economic Development Representatives (EDR) expanded outreach and technical assistance to tribes in the 10-state region, resulting in an historic number of grant applications and investments for the Indigenous Communities Program.



International Trade Administration



GOLD MEDAL
**PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

Leah Wils-Owens
Alexander Hammer
Chien-Min Yang
Gregory Campbell

*Enforcement and Compliance
International Trade Administration*

Nikki Kalbing
David Richardson

*Chief Counsel for Trade Enforcement
and Compliance
Office of the General Counsel*

The team is recognized for its professional excellence in analyzing Russia's highly complex economy and eligibility for market-economy status. The team's 100-page memo employed strict statutory criteria to evaluate Russia's economy under dramatically changing circumstances. Perseverance in finding and evaluating supportive evidence, agility in analytic approach under tight deadlines, and staff professionalism in light of rising bilateral frictions, allowed the DOC to further its mission of enforcing U.S. trade law and level the playing field between U.S. and Russian producers.



GOLD MEDAL
**PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

Jason Chang
Jackie Hong
Clint Brewer
Elizabeth Shieh
Brent Omdahl
Virgil Bisio
Bill Burwell
Simon Kim

*Global Markets
International Trade Administration*

Luke Myers
Paul Litwin

*Industry & Analysis
International Trade Administration*

The group is honored for securing critical U.S. investments by Taiwan semiconductor companies totaling \$34B and supporting more than 20,000 jobs, including Global Wafers Corporation's \$5B Texas investment to bring 300mm silicon wafer production to the U.S. for the first time, and Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company's new \$28B investment to manufacture 3nm semiconductors, essential for protecting and extending U.S. technological superiority in quantum computing and artificial intelligence (AI). Other investments include three specialty chemical producers which are transferring process technologies that achieve chemical purity levels previously unavailable in the U.S. market.

International Trade Administration



GOLD MEDAL

**PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Pamela Phan
Alan Turley
Steve Knode
Keith Roth
Darius Barzdukas
John Seo**

*Global Markets
International Trade Administration*

**Scott Kennedy
Luke Myers**

*Industry & Analysis
International Trade Administration*

**Matthew Borman
Kelly Gardner**

*Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Export Administration
Bureau of Industry and Security*

The group is honored for its work to promote, strengthen, and affirm a shared resolve for a more prosperous and secure economic vision supporting democratic values and countering authoritarian regimes by reinforcing the United States' and Japan's commitment to competitive and resilient economies. This work included promoting and advancing the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework; countering economic coercions; promoting and securing emerging and critical technologies and infrastructure; and supply chain resilience, especially in critical minerals and semiconductors.



GOLD MEDAL

**PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

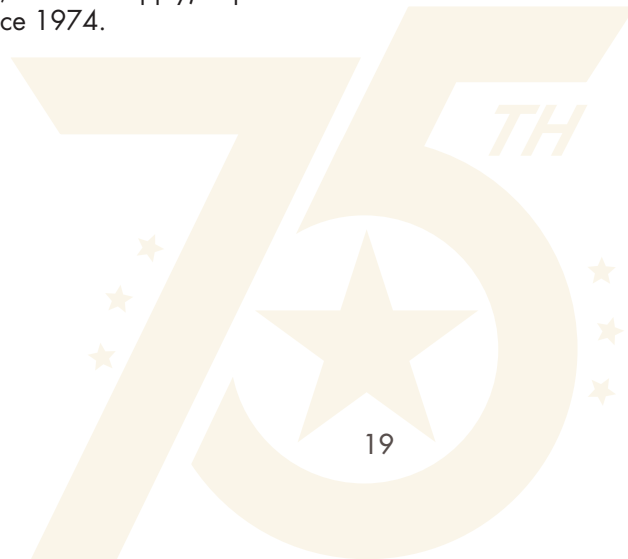
Jonathan Chesebro

*Industry & Analysis
International Trade Administration*

**Anna Costiuc
Robyn Garfield
Miguel Hernandez
Chris James
Hannah Kamenetsky
Emily Taneva
Patrice Williams**

*Global Markets
International Trade Administration*

This group is recognized for its sustained ten-year collaborative interagency commercial advocacy and concerted application of the Compete in Europe strategy over the past year to push across the finish line Westinghouse Electric Corporation's \$108 million contract to provide nuclear fuel to Bulgaria's Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant, thereby breaking Russian control of nuclear power infrastructure (design, construction, and fuel supply) in place in Bulgaria since 1974.



International Trade Administration



GOLD MEDAL
PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Stefan Popescu
Martin Claessens
Patrice Williams
Nathan Donohue
Christine Gomes

Global Markets
International Trade Administration

Jonathan Chesebro

Industry and Analysis
International Trade Administration

The group is recognized for excellence in advocacy for GE-Hitachi (GEH) Small Modular Reactor (SMR) technology which resulted in Ontario Power Generation (OPG) selecting the U.S. solution among international competitors. The OPG-GEH SMR solution will serve as a model for other Canadian provinces to follow to allow Canada to reach its aggressive decarbonization goals. This first commercial application of SMR technology with GEH advances U.S. civil nuclear standards globally, with OPG-GEH already taking orders from several European countries working to find alternatives to Russian oil and gas.



GOLD MEDAL
PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Julian Richards

Industry & Analysis
International Trade Administration

Mr. Richards is recognized for estimating the impact of a shutdown by the producer of the lion's share of advanced chips, Taiwan. His estimate enabled federal action spurring tens of billions of dollars of investment in the U.S. semiconductor industry. His coordination with the White House National Security Council, Counsel of Economic Advisors, and the Office of Science and Technology Policy resulted in his analysis being included in POTUS briefing. Mr. Richard's analysis has also been used by USG Principals who quote the topline results to international partners.

International Trade Administration



GOLD MEDAL

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Luz Betancur
John Fleming
James Rigassio
Christopher Quinlavan
Janée Pierre-Louis
Belen Gallegos
Kamlesh Shah

Global Markets
International Trade Administration

The team is honored for excellence and continued advocacy for Lockheed Martin's stealth fighter technology, resulting in the Government of Canada announcing in January 2023 the purchase of 88 F-35 jets to replace its aging fleet. Estimated at US\$14.2 billion, this deal will directly support over thirty-eight thousand jobs in the U.S. and help the Government of Canada acquire a fifth-generation fighter, regarded as one of the best in the world, to protect Canadians, enhance continental security, including in the Arctic, and further support NORAD and NATO missions.



GOLD MEDAL

HEROISM

Rachel Billingslea
Cynthia Griffin
Michael Staunton
Fred Stewart
Thomas Strauss

Global Markets
International Trade Administration

The "Operation Salvation" team is honored for working swiftly to save a life. Seeing a teammate's spouse's life starting to slip away, the team built an 80-person-strong "coalition of support" with partners in Angola and South Africa, interagency officials in D.C., medical communities in the U.S. and Australia, and friends across the nation to raise awareness, \$10K in resources, and – eventually – a guarantee of full medical payment so that South African doctors could provide life-saving surgery. This team's actions reflect favorably on the U.S. Government and the Department of Commerce.



International Trade Administration



SILVER MEDAL
PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Shannon Coe

*Industry and Analysis
International Trade Administration*

Ms. Coe is recognized for the creation of the Global Cross Border Privacy Rules (CBPR) Forum that will extend the reach of the APEC CBPR System, a multilateral data transfer mechanism and enforceable privacy rules framework developed by APEC-member economies. In April 2022, Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and her counterparts announced the establishment of the Global CBPR Forum to allow countries beyond Asia to participate and benefit from this system. This is groundbreaking work and it has already resulted in positive outcomes. Many countries – including the United Kingdom – have said they will join.



SILVER MEDAL
PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Jonathan Chesebro

*Industry and Analysis
International Trade Administration*

**Robyn Garfield
Anna Costiuc
Stephane Croigny
Doug Jacobson
Marian Volent
Mihaela Dodoiu
Frances Selema
Anastasia Mukherjee**

*Global Markets
International Trade Administration*

The group is honored for their extraordinary work in positioning U.S. civil nuclear and small modular reactor (SMR) companies to succeed in Europe and Eurasia, contributing to U.S. global leadership in an emerging technology, and supporting Europe and Eurasian energy security and climate change goals. They removed a significant barrier to U.S. exports, increased demand for U.S. SMR technologies through U.S.- Europe workshops and roundtables with potential buyers from 23 countries, secured \$1 million in State Department funding, and negotiated cooperation agreements with Romania and Slovakia.

International Trade Administration



SILVER MEDAL

PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

DAS Europe
FCS Europe
U.S. Field

Global Markets
International Trade Administration

The team is recognized for the successful development, organization, and implementation of the first-ever Department of Commerce minority business focused trade mission to Italy, Spain and Portugal. In coordination with the Minority Business Development Agency and the Export Import Bank of the United States, the trade mission attracted U.S. companies from underserved communities who signed new agency agreements and/or made export sales, furthering the Department's diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility (DEIA) objectives.



SILVER MEDAL

PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Julie Heizer
Jennifer Aguinaga
Curt Cottle
Christina Gay
David Huether

Industry and Analysis
International Trade Administration

Erika Czyz

Executive Administration
International Trade Administration

Grace Bottitta Williamson

Office of the Deputy Under Secretary
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration

The team is recognized for leading the interagency Tourism Policy Council in creating the 2022 National Travel and Tourism Strategy and implementing dozens of its action items through public and private working groups. The team demonstrated exceptional professionalism and effectiveness in coordinating the work of multiple federal agencies to help the travel and tourism industry recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and generate travel exports again.

International Trade Administration



SILVER MEDAL
PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Nancy Decker
Dana Mermelstein
Mary Kolberg
Dusten Hom
Tyler ODaniel
Richard Herring

Enforcement and Compliance
International Trade Administration

Rebecca Cantu
Elio Gonzalez
Paul Keith

Chief Counsel for Trade Enforcement
and Compliance
Office of the General Counsel

The team is recognized for meritorious performance in ensuring fair trade of ripe olives from Spain. Covered imports are valued at approximately \$550 million. The team addressed numerous and novel issues across multiple legal proceedings in U.S. Courts and the World Trade Organization, with some being conducted on a truncated schedule, and under intense scrutiny from Congress, the US olives industry, and senior USG leaders. The team's thorough analyses and collaborative efforts helped offset unfair trade practices and ensured a level playing field for U.S. olive farmers, workers, and processors.



SILVER MEDAL
PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Amanda Lawrence
Jaron Bass

Industry and Analysis
International Trade Administration

Dusan Marinkovic
Eve Lerman
Pamela Plagens
Yulie Tanuwidjaja
Yessy Verni
Yiu Kei Chan
Jayacely Joseph
Yu Ohashi

Global Markets
International Trade Administration

The team is honored for executing the Advanced Manufacturing Business Development Mission to Indonesia, Singapore, and Japan. They recruited a diverse delegation, including two U.S. economic development organizations and 12 small and medium size enterprise firms, half of which are women- and/or minority-owned. They organized meetings with government officials, private sector stakeholders, and industry organizations to promote U.S. interests in standards and cross-border data flows. The mission exposed U.S. companies to a wide variety of customers and advanced ITA's ability to counter Chinese influence in the region.

National Institute of Standards and Technology



**GOLD MEDAL
LEADERSHIP**

Public Safety Communications Research Division

*Communications Technology Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The organization is recognized for leading the development and execution of a \$300M, intramural and extramural research and development (R&D) program that enabled the advancement of critical public safety communications technology. The program used these funds to pioneer technological innovation, accelerate cutting edge communications research, and set critical communications standards. This successful program sets up the U.S. first responder community and FirstNet for long term success and serves as a model for other government agencies to use when launching programs to address areas of significant impact.



**GOLD MEDAL
LEADERSHIP**

James Whetstone, PhD

*Laboratory Programs
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

Dr. Whetstone is recognized for his outstanding leadership of the NIST Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Measurements Program, and development of Urban Testbeds in Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Megacity, and the Northeast Corridor of the U.S. to document GHG emissions in urban environments, which account for more than 70% of global GHG emissions. He has led research programs to improve the accuracy of GHG measurements in the atmosphere and the reliability and credibility of GHG emission measurements and led international efforts to expand such programs globally and to document the impacts of mitigation efforts.



National Institute of Standards and Technology



GOLD MEDAL

LEADERSHIP

**John Butler
Allison Getz
John Jones II**

*Laboratory Programs
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

**Will Guthrie
Barbara Guttman**

*Information Technology Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

Marcela Najarro

*Material Measurement Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

Alan Zheng

*Physical Measurement Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The team is recognized for establishing the infrastructure for the U.S. to increase stakeholder participation in forensic science standards development, creating an inclusive, collaborative environment leading to the development of U.S. consensus standards that promote scientific underpinnings and improve the quality of forensic science practices. Their leadership accounted for varying U.S. stakeholder interests, promoted cooperation across groups, and rendered the complex standardization world accessible to the forensic community.



GOLD MEDAL

**PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Joe (Sujen) Kau
Hicham Laoudi
Bethany Loftin
Helen Nelson
Jason Poffenberger
James Simmons
Lei Tong
Yujin Wang
James D. Wilson
Aiping Zhang**

*Office of Information Systems Management
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The group is recognized for the implementation of the modernized and streamlined iEdison system. The new system emphasizes improved user experience, enhanced functionality, and increased security making it easier for government grantees and contractors to comply with the Bayh-Dole Act and its reporting requirements. The design of the new system includes support for changes in regulations from 2018, an extended API for reporting requirements, integration with USPTO to reduce duplicative data entry, and numerous interface enhancements including graphical depiction of invention reports.

National Institute of Standards and Technology



GOLD MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Peter Bajcsy

*Information Technology Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

Carl Simon Jr.

*Material Measurement Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The team is recognized for developing a suite of advanced measurement tools based on artificial intelligence strategies that were instrumental in the development and characterization of the first induced pluripotent stem cell-containing medical product implanted into a patient in the USA. The team partnered with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support the manufacturing and testing of a tissue-engineered product for treating patients with age-related macular degeneration, a leading cause of adult blindness, and the tools are now being used in a clinical trial to help assure product safety and effectiveness.



GOLD MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

**Jennifer Dootz
Monique Hunter
Scott Jackson
Ishi Keenum
Jason Kralj
Stephanie Servetas**

*Material Measurement Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The group is recognized for leading rapid development and distribution of a positive control reference material to ensure the validity of mpox diagnostic testing. In consultation with other agencies, the team designed, manufactured, tested, and packaged materials within an unprecedented 30 days. The material was ready for global distribution two days after the World Health Organization declared mpox as a global public health emergency. This critical effort supported rapid expansion of U.S. testing capacity and provided the means for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to continue to monitor the performance of global testing.



National Institute of Standards and Technology



GOLD MEDAL

**SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING
ACHIEVEMENT**

**Timothy Blattner
Derek Juba
Benjamin Long
Michael Majurski
Adele Peskin**

*Information Technology Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

Damian Lauria

*Office of Information Systems Management
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

**Diana Ortiz-Montalvo
John Henry Scott
Keana Scott
Stephan Stranick**

*Material Measurement Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The group is recognized for the development and delivery of an AI-enhanced materials analysis platform to the laboratory system of the United States Department of Defense (DoD). The greatly improved measurement speed, reliability, and accuracy made possible by the successful technology transfer of this new analysis platform support DoD in its mission of developing and operating advanced nuclear proliferation detection technologies to preserve our national security through monitoring nuclear treaty compliance.



GOLD MEDAL

**SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING
ACHIEVEMENT**

**Gregory Cooksey
Matthew DiSalvo**

*Physical Measurement Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

**Anthony Kearsley
Paul Patrone**

*Information Technology Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The team is recognized for the invention of serial cytometry, aiding in clinical decision-making by early cancer identification and tracking of residual disease through rare-cell detection. Serial cytometry sets a new standard for the quantitative evaluation of cellular response to therapeutics. Their achievements enable rigorous, single-cell measurements in cytometry, removing a longstanding hindrance to robust medical diagnostics and providing the first ever real-time dynamic measurements of cellular functions, including signaling and metabolism.

National Institute of Standards and Technology



GOLD MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Kathryn Butler
Marco Fernandez
Erik Johnsson
Eric Link
Alexander Maranghides
Shonali Nazare

*Engineering Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The group is recognized for technical innovations that revealed for the first time the complex behavior of wildland-urban interface (WUI) fires and resulted in practical tools to assess and reduce WUI hazards in communities. Critical fire pathways found in post-fire investigations led to the design of experiments to measure fire spread in communities and determine necessary separation distances between structures and other fuel sources. The group delivered greatly needed tools and guidance for WUI fire mitigation, planning, and response to federal, state, and community leaders.



GOLD MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

John Lehman
Michelle Stephens
Nathan Tomlin
Christopher Yung

*Physical Measurement Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The group is cited for the development and deployment of innovative, chip-scale sensors for the continuous measurement of the infrared to ultraviolet solar radiation that drives the Earth's climate system. The sensors have been successfully deployed on two CubeSat miniature satellites presently on orbit, demonstrating that accurate, long-term solar measurements are possible at a cost one tenth that of traditional technologies, but with a similar level of accuracy. These sensors will make space-based measurements of the Earth's energy balance, a critical climate variable, for coming decades.



National Institute of Standards and Technology



GOLD MEDAL **SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING** **ACHIEVEMENT**

Dylan Yaga

*Information Technology Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

Mr. Yaga is cited for creating BioCTS – a suite of conformance test software, that is deployed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and has been downloaded over 3,000 times, to ensure biometric data is usable. Biometric data such as face images, fingerprints, and DNA are used to identify suspects, confirm identities, and perform forensic analysis. Using BioCTS ensures biometric data from biometric capture tools encode data correctly so that law enforcement can analyze all available biometric data accurately. Thus far, BioCTS has identified over 1,000 errors in identity standards that have since been corrected.



SILVER MEDAL **LEADERSHIP**

Kandy Hauk **Kari Reidy** **James Schufreider**

*Office of Congressional
and Legislative Affairs
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The team is honored for leading NIST's outreach and engagement efforts with staff in the House and Senate oversight committees to ensure that provisions of significant benefit to NIST's scientific and operations endeavors were included in the CHIPS and Science Act. The team engaged in difficult and at times delicate negotiations with House Science and Senate Commerce staff to ensure that critical authorities for NIST like Other Transaction Authority, Special Hiring Authority, and expansions of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership and M-USA programs were included in the final version of the CHIPS and Science Act.

National Institute of Standards and Technology



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Monique Hunter
Scott Jackson
Jason Kralj
Stephanie Servetas

*Material Measurement Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

Blaza Toman

*Information Technology Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The team is recognized for developing the first-of-its-kind biological reference material that enables high confidence monitoring of recreational waters (e.g., beaches, lakes, etc.) for fecal contamination. NIST Standard Reference Material 2917, a single DNA material comprised of 13 genetic markers, helps to detect human, cow, bird, or dog fecal contamination from leaky sewer lines, storm water discharge, or agriculture runoffs. This standard provides unprecedented accuracy and precision, even at extremely low concentrations, enabling U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Nation's testing laboratories to ensure public safety.



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Kerriane Buchanan
Yee-Yin Choong
Shanée Dawkins
Susanne Furman
Kristen Greene
Kevin Mangold
Adam Pintar

*Information Technology Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

Scott Ledgerwood
Mary Theofanos

*Communications Technology Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The team is recognized for producing the nation's first comprehensive study that gives voice to the communication technology and usability needs for first responders in law enforcement, firefighting, EMS, and 911/dispatch. The team captured the broad communication technology practices and needs from more than 7,100 first responders across rural, suburban, and urban America, covering all 50 states and FEMA regions. This work has led to the establishment of new companies and has spurred innovation in interoperability to solve critical communications problems.

National Institute of Standards and Technology



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING
ACHIEVEMENT

Jason Gorman
Thomas LeBrun
Benjamin Reschovsky

*Physical Measurement Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

David Long

*Material Measurement Laboratory
National Institute of Standards
and Technology*

The group is recognized for inventing and implementing a new optomechanical sensing platform to develop sensitive, intrinsically accurate, and field-deployable accelerometers. These are the first accelerometers shown to not require external calibration while providing International System of Units (SI) traceability with the lowest uncertainty for vibration sensing. The accelerometers are more compact than competing technologies, providing an important advantage for commercial adoption. These sensors enable important new capabilities for characterizing transportation systems, space exploration, and inertial navigation.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



**GOLD MEDAL
LEADERSHIP**

**Juli Trtanj
Hunter Jones
David Herring
Paul Hirschberg
Eric Hackathorn**

*Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

**Kimberly McMahon
Danielle Nagele**

*National Weather Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Monica Allen

*Office of Communications
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The group is honored for developing the National Integrated Heat Health Information System (NIHHIS) supporting equitable heat risk management and mitigation across the nation. NIHHIS has established an international network of heat experts, raised awareness, empowered over 60 communities to act on heat through citizen science Urban Heat Island mapping campaigns, and launched Heat.gov - the nation's premiere source of information regarding heat and health. As a result of their work and accomplishment, heat health is an urgent and visible national priority.



**GOLD MEDAL
LEADERSHIP**

**NOAA National Center for Coastal Ocean
Science Marine Spatial Ecology Division**

*National Ocean Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

**NOAA Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Offshore Wind Team
NOAA Southeast Regional Office Offshore
Wind Team**

*National Marine Fisheries Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The team is honored for advancing the identification of wind energy areas in the Gulf of Mexico suitable for future development of wind farms, a Presidential priority, by deftly completing the first application of comprehensive marine spatial models that will reduce cost to industry and government. Their efforts have earned the praise of both industry and environmental groups and have generated widespread support to replicate this approach around the country. Their leadership demonstrates transparency, fosters trust in government, and protects natural resources.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



**GOLD MEDAL
LEADERSHIP**

**Christopher Doley
Rachel Sweeney
Aileen Smith
Mel Landry
Ramona Schreiber
Christina McDonald
Scott Farley**

*National Marine Fisheries Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

**Chauncey Kelly
Jared Piaggione**

*National Ocean Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Craig O'Connor

*Office of General Counsel
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The group is honored for exceptional leadership in developing the Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion Restoration Plan. The plan required intensive expert analysis, deliberation, and evaluation in coordination with many organizations and agencies resulting in a \$2 billion large-scale diversion plan to reconnect the Mississippi River to Louisiana's Barataria Basin. The group led negotiations while contributing integrally to the development of this groundbreaking and scientifically complex project to restore thousands of acres of wetlands and benefit the broader ecosystem and the entire community.



**GOLD MEDAL
LEADERSHIP**

**Anthony Hawkes
David Baldwin
Ryan DeWitt
Patricia Shaw-Allen
Cathryn Tortorici
Thomas Hooper**

*National Marine Fisheries Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Daniel Pollak

*Office of General Counsel
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The Pesticides Team is recognized for the culmination of 15 years of work with the Environmental Protection Agency and the pesticide and agricultural industries incorporating conservation measures in pesticide registration and use upfront, reducing the regulatory burden without compromising protection of imperiled species. This collaboration increases compliance with the Endangered Species Act while creating cost efficiencies for industry.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



GOLD MEDAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

NCEP Central Operations

*National Weather Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Corporate Services Acquisition Division

*Acquisition and Grants Office
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Contract Law Division

*Office of General Counsel
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The team is honored for overcoming extensive obstacles related to contract and program management, and technical execution in transitioning the NWS suite of national and global weather, water, climate, and space models to NOAA's next-generation operational supercomputers. They implemented creative and aggressive risk mitigation strategies to counter schedule and cost impacts of COVID supply chain delays, processor and system software defects, and systems bio-contamination. They met their deadlines without any customer impact, ensuring delivery of model enhancements used to protect life and property.



GOLD MEDAL SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Joseph Cione

*Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

**Mark Rogers
Adam Abitbol
Rich Henning
Nick Underwood
Akshar Patel
Mike Holmes
Jonathan Shannon**

*Office of Marine and Aviation Operations
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Jason Niederwerder

*Acquisition and Grants Office
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The group is honored for deploying a small uncrewed aircraft system into Hurricane Ian. The mission set records for endurance, communication range and recorded wind speed. The deployment culminates a multi-year effort of testing and validation, while overcoming many obstacles demonstrating resiliency. This creates a new capability to sample the hurricane boundary layer, an advancement that keeps crewed aircraft out of harm's way, while providing highly unique observations that could improve scientific understanding, situational awareness, and future forecasts that impact millions of Americans.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



GOLD MEDAL

**SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING
ACHIEVEMENT**

**National Severe Storms Laboratory, Forecast
Research and Development Division
Global Systems Laboratory, Assimilation,
Scientific Computing, and Evaluation
Novel Division**

*Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

**National Weather Service Science
& Operations Officers**

*National Weather Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The group is honored for developing and demonstrating the value of a new weather prediction tool, the Warn-on-Forecast System (WoFS), which dramatically improves forecasts of hazardous weather. WoFS was developed through years of collaborative research, incorporating evaluations from social scientists and forecasters in NOAA testbeds. WoFS adds significant value relative to current forecast guidance and will help transform how the NWS approaches severe weather, significantly enhancing NOAA's capability to succeed in its mission to protect life and property.



GOLD MEDAL

CUSTOMER SERVICE

**Anchorage WFO
Fairbanks WFO
Alaska Environmental Science and
Service Integration Center**

*National Weather Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The team is recognized for providing extraordinary life-saving decision support services during the unprecedented September 2022 Post-Typhoon Merbok event. Amid significant staffing shortages, limited observations, and reliant on experimental national products, these offices collaborated to proactively engage emergency managers to deliver accurate, consistent, and equitable services resulting in no fatalities or injuries in this catastrophic event that produced storm surges up to 12' and affected 50 rural communities along more than 13,000 miles of coastline.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



GOLD MEDAL
CUSTOMER SERVICE

Mark Osler
Troy Kitch
Joanna Peth
Heidi Stiller

Jamie Carter
Doug Marcy
Ashley Miller
William Sweet

National Ocean Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration

Melanie Osborn

Office of Legislative and
Intergovernmental Affairs
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration

Jennie Lyons

Office of Communications
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration

The group is honored for establishing the National Water Center (NWC) operations center, including the infrastructure, staffing, and collaborative relationships that enabled street-level actionable water intelligence on a national-scale for the first time in U.S. history. This capability evolved the NWS to deliver better forecasts, earlier warnings, and clearer communication of high-impact water events as demonstrated in enhanced Impact-based Decision Support Services provided during the Plymouth, NH major flood event in April 2020, where critical infrastructure was closed well in advance of flooding.



GOLD MEDAL
HEROISM

NOAA Ship Ronald H. Brown

Office of Marine and Aviation Operations
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration

NOAA Ship Ronald H. Brown is honored for assisting a disabled sailing vessel with broken mast and evacuating three persons, hundreds of miles from Cabo Verde in the North Atlantic Ocean. After transiting over 200 miles to intercept, the needs of the sailing vessel were assessed, and the condition of an injured person was evaluated for evacuation suitability. One person injured by a falling mast and two passengers were evacuated from the disabled vessel via small boat in rough seas. Fuel was provided to the vessel to support the remaining passengers that elected not to evacuate.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



GOLD MEDAL

HEROISM

NOAA Ship Thomas Jefferson

*Office of Marine and Aviation Operations
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

NOAA Ship Thomas Jefferson is honored for heroism in rescuing three fishermen in distress on August 20, 2022. After hearing a distress call and sighting a red flare from a 12-foot bass boat without propulsion taking on water, the ship expertly maneuvered alongside and tied the boat off to the ship's rail. A Jacob's ladder was lowered and the individuals were treated for hypothermia symptoms prior to the Coast Guard's arrival. Rescued personnel did not have enough personal flotation devices or foul weather gear and would have been unable to make it ashore without assistance.



GOLD MEDAL

HEROISM

NOAA Ship Oregon II

*Office of Marine and Aviation Operations
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

NOAA Ship Oregon II is recognized for quick actions in assisting a vessel in distress on October 16, 2022. While preparing for port arrival, Oregon II heard a radio distress call nearby and diverted course to assist. The vessel was without power and taking on water, resulting in no available dewatering systems. The crew of the Oregon II worked together to deploy the Fast Rescue Boat and provide engineering assistance, resulting in the stopping of the flooding, restoration of vessel power, and subsequent dewatering. This accomplishment saved the property, and potentially the life, of a fellow mariner.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Patricia Quinn
Derek Coffman
Janet Intrieri
CAPT Phillip Hall
Mark Rogers
LT Nicole Chappelle
Jackson Osborn

*Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

This team is honored for the development of an uncrewed aerial system (UAS) able to measure vertical profiles of aerosol, cloud, and meteorological properties in the marine atmosphere. In collaboration with private partners, repeated launch and recovery of the observing platform was demonstrated with flight times up to 4.5 hours and altitudes up to 10,000'. This new capability within NOAA will provide data needed to improve scientific understanding of the marine atmosphere in general and Earth's Radiation Budget and Marine Cloud Brightening in particular.



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Dr. Karen Rosenlof
Dr. Troy Thornberry
Dr. Steve Ciciora
Dr. Ru-Shan Gao
Dr. Bryan Johnson
Dr. Gary Morris
Dr. Alice Crawford

*Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The group is honored for executing an international rapid response to quantify the atmospheric impact of the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcanic eruption. Within 6 days of the eruption, a strategy was developed, instruments were prepared, and scientists made the 36-hour journey to Reunion Island, in time to measure within the volcanic plume over Reunion. It was the fastest in situ measurement response to a major volcanic eruption. The balloon measurements taken over 5 days continues to be analyzed and will improve the representation of aerosol/climate interactions in global models.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING
ACHIEVEMENT

Charles A. Stock
Andrew C. Ross
Sang-Ki Lee

*Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The team is honored for developing the first river chemistry dataset for the 140 rivers along the U.S. West, East, and Gulf of Mexico U.S. coasts, derived from the USGS Water Quality Database, USGS Surface-Water Monthly Statistics for the Nation, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It provides a monthly time series and long-term climatology of twenty essential ocean chemical variables including alkalinity, pH, dissolved inorganic carbon, and all nutrients. This transformational dataset will benefit regional ocean biogeochemical modeling and carbon chemistry studies in U.S. coastal regions.



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING
ACHIEVEMENT

Michael Annis
LTJG Collin McMillan
Annemieke "Annie" Raymond
Michael Bloom
CDR Megan Guberski
Vanessa Russell
Grant Froelich
Julia Powell

*National Ocean Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The group is honored for their outstanding efforts while developing, researching, and carrying out hydrographic surveys in Antarctic waters while deployed aboard USCG Icebreaker Polar Star using a mobile survey kit. The survey was requested by the National Science Foundation for McMurdo Ice Station. This is the first time the kit was used in a remote environment without any precedent for risk analysis or known best practices for operations. The team met and exceeded these challenges, acquiring more data than anticipated for both the USCG and NSF.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Georg Grell
Ming Hu
Jebb Stewart
Curtis Alexander

*Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Ivan Csiszar

*National Environmental Satellite, Data,
and Information Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The team is honored for the development of HRRR-Smoke and its operational value during the 2022 wildfire season, especially in Alaska. HRRR-Smoke predicts the transport of wildfire smoke and its impact on weather and visibility. In 2022, many government agencies used HRRR-Smoke to alert communities about hazardous air quality. The model has also been invaluable for supporting visibility forecasts in aviation operations. NOAA NWS is the first major operational center in the world to use aerosols from biomass burning in a high-resolution numerical weather prediction model.



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Boyin Huang
Matthew Menne
Russell Vose
Xungang Yin
Huai-Min Zhang

*National Environmental Satellite, Data,
and Information Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The team is honored for using advanced artificial intelligence (AI) to innovate NOAA's global surface temperature product, NOAA Global Temp, a tool used for climate assessments worldwide. This effort improved the accuracy and understanding of regional and local climate variability by up to 50% in data sparse areas of the world, a particularly noteworthy achievement as it will enhance equity of climate services in underdeveloped countries. This innovation will significantly increase the accuracy and effectiveness of climate mitigation measures on a global scale.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



SILVER MEDAL ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Linda Belton

*Office of Legislative and
Intergovernmental Affairs
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Adam Dilts

*Office of General Counsel
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Steven Solari

*Office of Marine and Aviation Operations
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Heather Sagar

*National Marine Fisheries Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Brooke Carney

*Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Wendy Marie Thomas

*National Weather Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Lauren Wenzel

*National Ocean Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Douglas Kluck

*National Environmental Satellite, Data,
and Information Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Meredith Cameron

*Office of the Deputy Under Secretary
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The group is honored for the development and revisions of (1) NOAA Procedures for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Indian Tribes; (2) NOAA Administrative Order 218-8; and (3) NOAA Guidance and Best Practices for Engaging and Including Indigenous Knowledge in Decision-Making. These guidance documents inform NOAA employees on consultation obligations and procedures for actions that have tribal implications as well as the recognition and application of Indigenous Knowledge to improve NOAA decision making.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



SILVER MEDAL

ADMINISTRATIVE/TECHNICAL SUPPORT

LCDR Zachary P. Cress

*Office of Marine and Aviation Operations
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

Lauren Bregman Bethany Henneman Gary Dreyzin

*Office of General Counsel
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration*

The group is honored for developing OMAO's first federal regulations in history to implement key improvements authorized by the NOAA Corps Amendments Act of 2020, including the establishment of a NOAA Corps officer candidate rank, active-duty service obligations, and implementation of the Military Whistleblower Protection Act for NOAA Corps officers. These regulations elevate NOAA Corps officer obligations with those of other uniformed services and provide, for the first time, whistleblower protections to NOAA Corps officers.



National Telecommunications and Information Administration



GOLD MEDAL
**PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Molly Ritner
Rachel Niemerski
Amanda Clarke
Wesley King
Brandon Bradford
Lukas Pietrzak
Katherine Bates
Stephen Yusko
Maci Morin**

*Office of Assistant Secretary for
Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration*

The group is honored for its leadership in launching the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program; Digital Equity Program; and the Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program. The size, scale and complexity of these programs are substantially greater than what the Department of Commerce and NTIA have managed in the past, representing a more than 25x increase in grant funding for NTIA. The group's work in developing the program policy will help ensure that everyone in America has access to affordable, reliable high-speed Internet service.



GOLD MEDAL
**SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING
ACHIEVEMENT**

**Edward Drocella
Nickolas LaSorte
Charles Glass
Frank Sanders
Geoffrey Sanders
Kenneth Calahan
Savio Tran
Kenneth Tilley
Kenneth Brewster**

*Office of Spectrum Management
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration*

The group is honored for rapidly and effectively responding to concerns about coexistence between new C-Band 5G base stations and existing safety-of-life airborne radar altimeters by performing measurements and technical analyses to assess whether 5G might interfere with the altimeter receivers. The group's work demonstrated that 5G transmissions should not interfere with radar altimeters which incorporate suitable altimeter receiver filters and suppression of 5G-base stations' out-of-band and skyward emissions.

National Telecommunications and Information Administration



SILVER MEDAL

PERSONAL AND
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*Office of Telecommunications and
Information Applications
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration*

The group is honored for their contribution to the development of the NTIA Grant Portal. This contribution included Portal and application materials development, tailored technical assistance, and guidance for the submission and review of applications for three grant programs. The Portal will support the administration of additional grant programs and post-award monitoring. NTIA's Portal provided for the successful intake and review of grant applications for programs representing \$46B in available federal funding from the BIL to expand broadband access across the Nation.



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PERSONAL AND
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The group is honored for its leadership in developing the NOFO for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program; Digital Equity Program; and the Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program. The size, scale, and complexity of these programs are substantially greater than what the Department of Commerce and NTIA has managed in the past, representing a more than 25x increase in grant funding for NTIA. The group's work in developing the program policy will help ensure that everyone in America has access to affordable, reliable high-speed broadband.

United States Patent and Trademark Office



GOLD MEDAL LEADERSHIP

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*Office of the Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office*

The group is honored for leading the design and implementation of a revolutionary new artificial intelligence (AI) patent search system. The AI patent search system automatically retrieves relevant documents from over 100 million patent documents regardless of publication language within seconds, reducing the burdens of traditional methods of patent search. The groundbreaking achievement promotes the efficient delivery of reliable intellectual property rights by enhancing the retrieval of both U.S. and foreign patent documents at the earliest stage of prosecution and improves patent quality.



GOLD MEDAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

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*Office of the General Counsel
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The team is recognized for excellence in enhancing and administering the USPTO Patent Pro Bono Program. In 2022, the program achieved a record for the number of corporations and law firms contributing significant hours to one or more of the regional programs. Additionally, the program grew in number of applicants and prospective applicants. The team worked with 21 regional non-profits to provide free patent preparation and prosecution services to under-resourced inventors and small businesses.

United States Patent and Trademark Office



GOLD MEDAL

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*Office of the Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office*

The team is honored for dedication in the development of World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Standard ST.26 and the unprecedented, simultaneous implementation globally on July 1, 2022. This decade-long effort to update and unify how biotechnology information is gathered in patent applications around the world is vital to the availability and utility of such information. The agreement by all WIPO member states is a great advancement in the global harmonization of biotechnology information dissemination that assists not only inventors but all who benefit from biotechnology innovations.



GOLD MEDAL

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*Office of the Chief Information Officer
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office*

The group is honored for their leadership, technical agility, and commitment to having more stable and highly available systems in the Data Center. The team exemplified extraordinary leadership in the deployment of modern technology infrastructure that provides increased storage, power, and network service efficiency that performs and scales to meet mission demands. The team's exhaustive efforts were pivotal to the successful migration to a new data center that enables the modernization of core services and systems that are more secure, available, and efficient for the business.



United States Patent and Trademark Office



GOLD MEDAL

ADMINISTRATIVE/TECHNICAL SUPPORT

**Office of the Chief Information Officer
Office of the Commissioner for Trademarks
Office of the General Counsel**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

The group is recognized for developing a solution whereby trademark owners can access their trademark registration certificate electronically. Trademark registration certificates are now issued electronically by the USPTO and uploaded to the USPTO database where they can view, download, and print a complete copy of their registration certificate at any time, free of charge. This change makes certificates more accessible, decreases the time for customers to access them, and furthers USPTO's efforts to implement beginning-to-end electronic processing for trademark applications.



SILVER MEDAL

LEADERSHIP

**Office of the Commissioner for Trademarks
Office of the Chief Information Officer
Office of the General Counsel**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

The group is honored for successfully and quickly implementing the Trademark Modernization Act of 2020's provisions on nonuse cancellation, Letters of Protest, and the three-month office action response period. This group collaborated with stakeholders, both internal and external, to develop and refine forms, procedures, IT workflow, and examination criteria in order to successfully implement these provisions. The procedures were well received by stakeholders and are being used successfully to challenge unused applications and registrations and to accelerate responses to office actions.

United States Patent and Trademark Office



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*Office of the Chief Information Officer
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office*

The group is honored for establishing and advancing a multi-cloud platform for USPTO. Expanding from one to three authorized cloud providers benefits the USPTO mission and stakeholders with easier scheduling, less risk, and cheaper computing capability. This advancement reduces operation costs and enhances security to protect USPTO data and Intellectual Property. Multi-cloud encourages emerging technology and enables future modernization efforts.



SILVER MEDAL

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*Office of the Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office*

The group is honored for addressing the challenge of recognizing impermissible, overlapping claimed subject matter in patent applications with robust family histories where many related applications have been filed. From the Office of Patent Quality Assurance, this group has not only defined novel measures for enhanced reviewing and comprehensive data mining but also created novel examination tools to efficiently recognize patent claims with a high potential for overlap. Their dedication and inventiveness have greatly enhanced patent quality and accessibility to inventions.



United States Patent and Trademark Office



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*Office of the Patent Trial and Appeal Board
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office*

The group is honored for exceptional performance and dedication to the mission of the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) by successfully deploying the Patent Trial and Appeal Board Case Tracking System (P-TACTS) external portal, unifying multiple legacy systems, vastly improving usability, capability, and overall customer service for PTAB and USPTO external customers. P-TACTS provides external customers a straightforward and user-friendly user interface to file papers and conduct America Invents Act (AIA) trial business with the PTAB.



SILVER MEDAL

HEROISM

Gwendolyn Blackwell

*Office of the Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office*

Ms. Blackwell is recognized for saving the life of a fellow employee. While working remotely on a video call with Ms. Blackwell, the employee had a stroke. Although the employee did not recognize the symptoms or the potential gravity at the time, Ms. Blackwell immediately understood the severity of the situation and urged the employee to get help. As a result of Ms. Blackwell's fast reaction, the employee received the necessary life-saving medical attention that would otherwise have been overlooked. Ms. Blackwell's action prevented the incident from further escalating to a fatality.

Office of the Secretary



GOLD MEDAL
**PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

Adrienne Frazier
Anne Fisher
Candida Hartly

Office of the General Counsel
Office of the Secretary

The team is honored for exceptional legal analysis and review in support of the issuance of the comprehensive export controls announced on October 7, restricting the ability of the People's Republic of China (PRC) to obtain and develop the most advanced computing and semiconductor manufacturing items which are used by China for military and proliferation applications. The attorneys' intensive efforts helped to ensure that the updated export control policies effectively addressed the PRC's "military-civil fusion" strategy contrary to the national security and foreign policy interests of the United States.



GOLD MEDAL
**PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Office of the Chief Counsel for Trade
Enforcement and Compliance**
**Office of the Assistant General Counsel
for Legislation and Regulation**

Office of the General Counsel
Office of the Secretary

International Trade Administration

International Trade Administration

The team is recognized for implementing Presidential Proclamation 10414 through a rule-making that balanced demand for solar imports with enforcement of U.S. trade laws. In response to the President's declaration of an energy emergency, the organizations developed a rule-making on an expedited basis to ensure that solar imports from certain countries could be accessed by clean energy projects in the U.S. At the same time, the temporary exemption from trade remedy duties maintains strong enforcement of the U.S. trade remedy laws, including through an anti-stockpiling provision.



Office of the Secretary



SILVER MEDAL
LEADERSHIP

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*Office of the Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary for Administration
Office of the Secretary*

Christopher Wallis
Raymond Meraz

*Enterprise Services
Office of the Secretary*

The team is honored for its successful co-sponsorship with the Treasury Department to offer a \$200M DOC FFRDC contract with MITRE for appropriate Commerce specific requirements. The Commerce contract implementation provides support across all programs and workforce areas that require direct support to inherently government functions that are not appropriate for a commercial vendor to provide in areas such as strategic planning, program development and unique technology knowledge. The team worked to understand existing bureau needs and established a governance board to ensure compliance.



SILVER MEDAL
LEADERSHIP

William Cabrera
Mark B. Daley
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John Geisen

*Office of the Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary for Administration
Office of the Secretary*

The team is honored for developing a fraud, waste, and abuse risk strategy for the Department. One of the enterprise risks on the Department's risk profile is fraud, waste, and abuse. While this risk applies to all funding overseen by the Department, the order of magnitude increases in funding from new major legislative initiatives, such as ARP, IJA and CHIPS, raises concern on the process to the deal with this unprecedented level. The monitoring and tracking of these large-scale programs present challenges to mitigate any potential reputational risk issues from improper execution.

Office of the Secretary



SILVER MEDAL
PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

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Assistant Secretary for Administration
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DiJon Ferdinand Brigid Boykins

U.S. Census Bureau

The team is honored for establishing the Interagency Executive Roundtable to address common mission critical supply chain challenges faced by federal agencies responsible for collecting, researching, analyzing, and disseminating statistical data by facilitating a dialog between agency and industry experts and making executive leadership aware of the wealth of expertise and capabilities available in small and socioeconomic small businesses and identifying strategies to modernize government processes, systems, and proposed acquisition strategies.



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*National Oceanic and Atmospheric
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U.S. Census Bureau

Stacy Duncan

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

The team is honored for successfully designing, testing and deploying the CSOD Routing Tool for use by the Department's acquisition workforce. The tool allows the Office of Acquisition Management to have insight into the entire workflow of an application and provides an applicant regular updates as an application moves through the process. Ultimately, the tool has reduced the overall processing time.

Office of the Secretary



SILVER MEDAL CUSTOMER SERVICE

Richard Costello
Kelly Spence
Deanna Lewis
Martha Collins

*Office of the Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary for Administration
Office of the Secretary*

The group is honored for their exceptional collaboration and technical expertise in developing a web-based Employee and Labor Relations Tracking System for the Office of the Secretary, MBDA, FirstNet, NTIA, BIS, and ITA. This system streamlines case management through automation, electronic filing, and structured reporting and enables the Office of Human Resources Management to efficiently manage and monitor cases, from initiation to resolution, while generating insightful reports on activities and trends. These efforts have significantly enhanced efficiency and transparency in Employee and Labor Relations across the Department.



SILVER MEDAL ADMINISTRATIVE/TECHNICAL SUPPORT

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Assistant Secretary for Administration
Office of the Secretary*

Rob Moffett

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Office of the Secretary*

The group is honored for its successful development and implementation of systems and business processes for the purchase card program, including the implementation of a data mining solution to enhance management and oversight and a ticketing and workflow system to improve responsiveness to customer requests. These efforts assisted the Department in reducing fraud, waste and abuse in the purchase card program and improving customer service response time. This initiative allows the Department to continually reduce risks associated with the purchase card program.

Acknowledgements

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Department's Incentive Awards Program Manager

David A. Logan

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Honor Awards Ceremony Volunteers







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE