



UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
1900 E STREET NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20415

BIOGRAPHY

James C. Onusko

In March 2016, James C. Onusko was sworn in as the Transition Leader, National Background Investigations Bureau, for the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). He leads an interagency team that is chartered with supporting the President's goal of reforming the security clearance process and establishing a new federal entity to strengthen how the government performs background investigations and to ensure the protection of its information through a collaborative partnership with the Department of Defense.

He comes from the Department of Veterans Affairs, where he served as the Executive Director, Personnel Security and Identity Management since December 2013, overseeing a broad technical program to ensure VA-wide compliance with laws, regulations and executive orders associated with vetting, identity proofing, adjudication, credentialing, HSPD-12 access controls, and continuous monitoring of federal employees and contractors to establish a safe and secure environment throughout the VA.

Mr. Onusko also served with the Department of State, as Director, Office of Personnel Security and Suitability, from 2004 to 2013. In that role, he instituted automation and reform into the State Department's end-to-end security clearance process, including investigative responsibility overseas on behalf of the federal community, where he was recognized as the Diplomatic Security Employee of the Year 2005; his office was the recipient of the Office of Personnel Management's Guardian Award in 2006; as well as the Director, National Intelligence Award for Security, 2012.



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Mr. Onusko began his federal career in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, where he served in a number of roles involving responsibilities in law enforcement, including the protection of personnel, critical infrastructure, and national security interests. He holds a bachelor of science degree in Criminal Justice from Troy State University and performed graduate studies leading to a master's degree in Crimes in Commerce, The George Washington University.