



Security Bulletin #27: Introducing the New Director of the United States Marshals Service: Donald W. Washington

Donald Washington was sworn in as the eleventh Director of the United States Marshals Service on March 29, 2019. He is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, and served in the United States Army as an Air Defense Artillery Officer, both on active duty and in the United States Army Reserve. Prior to attending law school, he was employed as an engineer at Conoco, Inc. After graduating from South Texas College of Law, he engaged in both corporate and private practice litigating employment discrimination, tort, criminal, commercial, and business issues.

In 2001, President George W. Bush appointed him to serve as the United States Attorney for Western Louisiana. In that capacity, he was also selected to serve on the U.S. Attorney General’s Advisory Committee, including subcommittees on Anti-Terrorism, Civil Rights, Controlled Substances, and Native American Issues. He was

also selected to chair the Southeastern U.S. Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force.

In a recent conversation with the Chairman of the FJA Security Committee, Director Washington outlined his vision for judicial security:

Preserving and protecting the judicial branch, and all of its participants, is the first and most important duty of the U.S. Marshals Service. Protection of judges, prosecutors, staff, witnesses, and other persons involved in judicial processes is our prime responsibility. We strongly believe that the rule of law underpins and secures liberty in our republic. Judicial security is paramount because it allows the courts to operate free of intimidation or coercion from outside forces. From the founding of our nation to the present, every initiative of this law enforcement agency has been directly related to supporting, preserving, and protecting the rule of law. The USMS will maintain the ability to protect the judiciary and its processes; detect and mitigate threats; and bring to justice those who attempt to evade or undermine our legal system.

It is hard to envision someone better suited to direct the nation's oldest law enforcement agency.

Security Committee
Federal Judges Association

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