

Cathleen D. Garman

Senior Vice President for Public Policy

Contract Services Association

Ms. Garman joined CSA in May 1998, where she is responsible for the association's public policy agenda in such areas as acquisition policy reform, general procurement policy (including civilian agency and defense issues), services contracting issues, commercial activities competition and depot maintenance, as well as small business policies. She is co-chair of the Acquisition Reform Working Group, the Industry Depot Coalition, and the Fair Competition Coalition – all of which work with the Congress and the Executive branch on policy issues of concern to industry.

Prior to joining CSA, Ms. Garman was the Vice President for Government Policy at the National Defense Industrial Association. She also served as a professional staff member on the House Armed Services Committee (from 1990-1995). Ms. Garman was a key player in the drafting of the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994 – the first major comprehensive reform of the government's acquisition system in more than a decade. She also participated in the development of numerous acquisition policy improvement measures, such as the provisions adopted as part of the annual Defense Authorization Acts. This includes participating in the drafting of the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act, which is aimed at professionalizing the Defense Department's acquisition workforce. Furthermore, Ms. Garman has worked on policies related to the defense industrial base and small business contracting as well as the Defense Department's drug interdiction program.

In addition, Ms. Garman worked on the House Small Business Committee and was responsible for developing legislation related to general small business procurement (including minority business development reform and the Small Business Innovation Research program). She began her career on Capitol Hill as a legislative assistant for former Congressman Nicholas Mavroules and subsequently served as his Chief of Staff.

Ms. Garman also served two years in the Philippines as a Peace Corps Volunteer, and returns often to visit her Pilipino family.

Ms. Garman has twice received the FEDERAL 100 award for acquisition excellence. She is a member of the National Contract Management Association, the Council of Defense and Space Industry Association, and Women in Defense.

Ms. Garman received her MA in Administrative Sciences (Management Information Systems) from George Washington University and her BA (with honors) in Political Science and Journalism from the University of Wisconsin.