



Christopher A. Kapellas  
Director, Human Resources Directorate  
Washington Headquarters Services

Mr. Christopher A. Kapellas was appointed the Director, Human Resources Directorate on November 29, 2015. In this position he manages the Washington Headquarters Services (WHS) human resources activities and provides human resources and personnel security services to diverse clientele — Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) and other serviced Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities. His responsibilities include human resources servicing for approximately 6,000 civilians and over 2,800 military personnel along with associated personnel security operations; personnel security adjudications, appeals, and policy covering over 100,000 positions across the OSD, Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities. In addition, Mr. Kapellas represents the OSD, Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities (collectively referred to as the “Fourth Estate”) in a DoD-wide policy development role, providing advice on emerging initiatives affecting policy, service delivery, and collaboration with Fourth Estate organizations.

In March 2013, Mr. Kapellas was appointed to the Senior Executive Service and assigned as Deputy Director, Human Resources Directorate. Additionally, he supervised the Transparency and Tools Division within the Directorate focusing on leveraging technology to open human resources information, statistics, and analysis to customers and practitioners alike.

Previously, Mr. Kapellas held positions in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Comptroller and Chief Financial Officer as a senior budget analyst working Overseas Contingency Operations appropriations matters, and in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy as the Acting Deputy Director for Enterprise Services, as the Director, Human Capital, and as the Director, Executive Secretariat.

Before serving the Department of Defense as a civil servant, Mr. Kapellas was an Active duty Air Force colonel serving in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Affairs as the Senior Military Assistant. Mr. Kapellas entered Active duty service as an F-111 pilot and is a United States Air Force Fighter Weapons School graduate. He has led as a Squadron Commander in South Korea and again as a Group Commander in Singapore. His varied military career includes service as an Assistant Air Attaché in Beijing, China, and as the Chief, United States Air Force Base Realignment and Closure Branch during the 2005 round of BRAC.

Mr. Kapellas holds a Master’s Degree in Political Science from Midwestern State University, Texas; and a Bachelor’s Degree in Far Eastern Area Studies from the United States Air Force Academy, Colorado, graduating as the outstanding cadet in a far eastern language; Chinese. Mr. Kapellas is also a graduate of Air Command and Staff College and the Air War College, Alabama, and the Federal Executive Institute.