

Secretary's 7^{3rd} Honor Awards

C E R E M O N Y



*Dedication Beyond Measure: Celebrating Extraordinary
Commitment to Serving the American People*

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Secretary's 73rd
Honor Awards*

Thomas Jefferson Auditorium
MAY 21, 2024



A reception for the award recipients and their guests will be held on the Jamie L. Whitten Building Patio immediately following the Secretary's Honor Awards Ceremony.

Photos from today's ceremony will be made available for viewing and downloading at [U.S. Department of Agriculture | Flickr](#).



Secretary's Honor Awards

C E R E M O N Y



Musical Prelude

Presentation of Colors Armed Forces Color Guard

National Anthem Armed Forces Soloist

Pledge of Allegiance Led by Sharon Drumm
SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE UNDER SECRETARY
RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS

Welcome and Introduction of the Secretary of Agriculture Xochitl Torres-Small
Deputy Secretary of Agriculture

..... Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary's Message Secretary of Agriculture

Presentation of Awards Secretary Vilsack
Deputy Secretary Torres-Small

2023 Secretary's Honor Awards

2023 Theme Awards

2023 Presidential Rank Award Recipients

Closing Remarks Sharon Drumm



CATEGORY 1 - Award for Combating Climate Change to Support America's Working Lands, Natural Resources, and Communities



National Climate Assessment Team

Office of the Chief Economist

For empowering USDA and its stakeholders to respond to climate change with the U.S. National Climate Assessment.

Elizabeth Ainsworth	William Gould	Miranda Mockrin
Nora Alvarez-Berrios	Jessica Halofsky	Tischa Munoz-Erickson
John Baker	Serra Hoagland	Susan O'Neill
Michelle Baumflek	David Hoover	Steven Ostoja
Carl Bolster	Coeli Hoover	Jacqueline Ott
Amber Campbell	Virginia Jin	Dannele Peck
Michael Cosh	Erik W. Johnson	David Peterson
Jennifer Costanza	Linda Joyce	Jeffrey Prestemon
Grant Domke	Erin Lane	Julian Reyes
Emily Elias	David Levinson	Marty Schmer
Tracey Farrigan	Charles Luce	Sheri Spiegel
Philip Fay	Richard MacKenzie	Chris Swanston
Christopher Fettig	Anne Marsh	Dennis Todey
Alan Franzluebbbers	Kathleen McGinley	Margaret Walsh
Christian Giardina	Steven McNulty	Travis Warziniack
Grizelle Gonzalez	Chelcy Miniatt	
Sarah Goslee	Rob Mitchell	

Priority Data Layers Team

Farm Production and Conservation, Natural Resources Conservation Service

For your cross-agency innovation and collaboration to develop the Priority Data Layers project for improved decision making.

Michael Carlo Altman	Sara M. Del Fierro
Adam Chambers	Leslie J. Glover, II
Chieh Chen	Aaron Pratt
Denise C. Coleman	Mark Xu
Leslie D. Deavers	



CATEGORY 1 - Award for Combating Climate Change to Support America's Working Lands, Natural Resources, and Communities



Climate Risk Viewer Team

Forest Service

For developing the Climate Risk Viewer, a tool to inform decisions around climate adaptation and carbon stewardship planning.

Sarah Anderson	Michael Cummings	Charlie Luce	Dave Theobald
Nicole Balloffet	Ray Davis	David Lytle	Susanne Tracy
Jamie Barbour	Beth Dennis	Peter Nelson	Nathan Walker
Scott Barndt	Shannon Groff	Claire O'Dea	Travis Warziniack
Travis Belote	Healy Hamilton	Nathan Robbins	Kristen Weil
Erin Berryman	Christine Handler	Jennifer Ross	Bo Wilmer
Christopher Carlson	Linda Heath	John Rupe	Zack Wurtzebach
Joan Carlson	Linh Hoang	Sarah Sawyer	
John Coulston	Erik Johnson	Glenn Sullivan	
Shelley Crausbay	Aaron Kamoske	Christopher Swanston	

Mobile Inelastic Neutron Scattering Technology Team

Research, Education, and Economics, Agricultural Research Service

For outstanding technology transfer of Mobile Inelastic Neutron Scattering soil scanning system.

Aleksandr Kavetskiy
Stephen Prior
Henry Torbert
Galina Yakubova

Rural Development - Rural Utilities Service

For the development of the Achievable Reduction Tool to rank and compare Greenhouse Gas reductions and affordability of clean energy.

Joseph Badin

AIM for Climate Summit Team

Research, Education, and Economics, Office of the Chief Scientist

For planning and executing the historic AIM for Climate Summit and 2nd AIM for Climate Ministerial.

Melanie Abley	Justin Bredlau	Linsey Haram	Perry Rainosek
Jaime Adams	Autumn Canaday	Claire Henly	William Singer
Olutayo Akingbe	Caitlin Corner-Dolloff	Christian Man	Dauida Tengey
Peter Arbuckle	Sujata Emani	Katherine McBride	Gerald Tillman
Barbara Bennett	Jeffrey Galloway	Simone Passarelli	Seshu Vaddey
Hope Bigda-Peyton	Anthony Gilbert	Kim Radcliff	Yvette Wedderburn



CATEGORY 2 - AWARD FOR ENSURING AMERICA'S AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM IS EQUITABLE, RESILIENT, AND PROSPEROUS



Finney and Lane CRP Staff

Farm Production and Conservation, Farm Service Agency - KANSAS

Enrollment of more than 1/3 of the total acres across 4 states in Migratory Waterfowl SAFE CRP between LN and FI Counties

Brena Moomaw
Stacey Foos
Rylea Crist

African Swine Fever Domestic Preparedness Team

Marketing and Regulatory Programs – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

For proactive action to prepare for and manage the impact of potential African Swine Fever introduction to the US on the US swine herd.

Alberto O. Alvarez Rodriguez	Robert Miknis
Eric J Balcerzak	Ximena Miranda
Oniel Candelaria Munoz	Laurie M. Morales
Jose R Ceballos	Gustavo E Olivieri Cintron
Dana J Cole	Jana K Robb
Phuong Nhu T Duong	Suelee Robbe Austerman
Sharon S Fisher	Lisa T. Rochette
Shayne P Galford	Lori D Swiderski
Jeffrey G Hash	Shilo M Weir
Christina M Loiacono	Jonathan T. Zack

2023 U.S. Host Year Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Team

Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, Foreign Agricultural Service

For negotiating Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Principles enabling sustainable agriculture and resilient agri-food systems across the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation region.

Wynter Carl
Joe Hain
Aileen Mannix
Melissa Schmaedick
Allison Thomas



CATEGORY 2 - AWARD FOR ENSURING AMERICA'S AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM IS EQUITABLE, RESILIENT, AND PROSPEROUS



SARS- CoV-2 Animal Surveillance Implementation Team

Marketing and Regulatory Programs – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

For your efforts to strengthen APHIS' ability to detect emerging and zoonotic diseases and build an early warning system to limit or prevent future pandemics.

Sarah Allely	Caitlin Jandegian	Ibrahim Shaqir
Valerie DeFeo	Martha Keller	Abby Stilwell
Tom DeLiberto	Donna Lalli	Jason Suckow
Laird Draves	Roxanne Mullaney	Sarah Tomlinson
Matt Erdman	Alecia Naugle	Michelle Wenberg
Stephanie Flugge	Alan Pearson	Heather Wilkie
Langston Hull	Raul Ruiz	

National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility Standup Team

Research, Education, and Economics, Agricultural Research Service

For standing up operations of the National Bio and Agro- Defense Facility.

Michael Arnold	Meghan Jackson	Karen Ratzow
Jeffrey Brakke	Steven Kappes	Jeffrey Silverstein
Kenneth Burton	Elizabeth Lautner	Angela Stewart
Larry Chandler	Diane McFadgen	Sharone Washington
Alfonso Clavijo	Patrick Moylan	Diana Whipple
Eric Hoffman	Katherine Pawlosky	Michael Wiggett
Freedra Isaac	Jessica Pulz	

Farm Income Team

Research, Education, and Economics, Economic Research Service

For continuing to develop a farm income forecast during a period of high volatility for the agricultural economy

Tatiana Borisova
Monika Ghimire
Kathy Kassel
Jonathan Law
Carrie Litkowski
Dipak Subedi
Christine Whitt
David Williams



CATEGORY 3 - AWARD FOR FOSTERING AN EQUITABLE AND COMPETITIVE MARKETPLACE FOR ALL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS



Office of the General Counsel

For outstanding representation of the Department of Agriculture as primary counsel in high profile trade negotiations and disputes.

Nancy Kao

India Market Access Team

Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, Foreign Agricultural Service

For contributing to efforts to reduce tariffs and expand market access for a range of U.S. agricultural exports to India.

Marian J. Beillard
Joan E. Hurst
Brendan A. Lynch
Ross E. Medico
Ronald P. Verdonk

Ukraine Analysis Team

Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, Foreign Agricultural Service

For outstanding teamwork and analysis of the impact of Russia's Invasion of Ukraine on global food security and trade.

Amy Gaito
Eric Gero
Agata Kingsbury
Elizabeth Leonardi
Kevin Min
Iliana Mladenova
Denys Sobolev
Rachel Trego



CATEGORY 3 - AWARD FOR FOSTERING AN EQUITABLE AND COMPETITIVE MARKETPLACE FOR ALL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS



Inflation Reduction Act, Section 22006 Team

Farm Production and Conservation Team, Farm Service Agency

For your leadership to implement Section 22006 of the Inflation Reduction Act 22006 and keep farmers farming.

Baylee Bain	Brittany Fox	Tianpu (Tim) Liang	Jason Quintana
Mercedes Baker	Tina Fritts	Lisa Liska	Tim Reimer
Ashley Barnhart	Jamelda Fulton	Shelley Lobert	Mary Rhoades
Morgan Barton	Danielle Furlin	Julie Long	Nick Richburg
Terrick Boley	Greg Gaston	Morgan Lopez	Dana Richey
Verlon Matt Brown	Lisa (LeAnn) Gibbs	Bruce Mair	Matthew Richter
Houston Bruck	Angela Glandorf	Scott Marlow	Wesley Riley
Mike Buechler	Wyonia Golden	Cheryl Massey	Caleb Roberson
Sarah Campbell	Makayla Green	Heather Medina	Angelo Scaffido
Molly Carey	Donna Griswold	Lupe Mims	Jamila Scott
Jessica Casada	Brian W. Hall	Rebecca Minter	Gina Smith
Bill Cobb	Nancy Harrell	Stacy Morrison	Michaela Stiver
Madison Connor	Millicent Harrison	Mickelle Munnings	Megan Stone
Britney Cornwell	Sharilyn Hashimoto	Kara Napier	Matthew Strueby
Brittany Criswell	Amanda Heitkamp	Jody Nation	Jacob Thao
Allen Denkins	Kristen Hibbard	Lee Nault	Frank Urbanick
Mary DeOrnellis	Kayla Hintze	Janet Neighbors	Kenneth Ure
Courtney Dixon	Carol Hoyt	Kim Nguyen	Laurie Weatherly
Caitlin Durow	Derek Johnson	Richard Nichols	Nathaniel West
Steven Dusek	Dock Jones	Sarah Niensteadt	Nathan Wilson
Sheila Erwin	Lynn Kaiser	TJ Nii	Micki Wines
Carolyn Estrada	DeAnna Kartak	Sheila Oelrich	Alexis Wood
Marcia Evans	Heather Koester	Fernando Pineiro	Janet Wright
Megan Everswick	Janet Kramer	William (Bud) Prue	Jason Yarberry
Laura Fisher	Jaimie Lavergne	Jeff Pyle	Katherine Zachman



CATEGORY 3 - AWARD FOR FOSTERING AN EQUITABLE AND COMPETITIVE MARKETPLACE FOR ALL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS



Interagency Partnership for Fair Trade in Safe Food Team

Office of the Secretary, U.S. Codex Office

For outstanding contributions to public health and international trade through science-based food safety standards.

Rob Ahern	Kenneth Lowery
Julie Chao	Ellen Luger
Doreen Chen-Moulec	Marie Maratos Bhat
Sean Cox	Julie Moss
Maria Espinoza	Brandi Robinson
Alexandra Ferraro	Brianna Robinson-Verloop
Jason Hafemeister	Heather Selig
Mary Frances Lowe	Corey Watts

Integrated Modeling Geospatial Estimation System: Modeling Team

Research, Education, and Economics, National Agricultural Statistics Service

For outstanding research, development and implementation of the PCDL and an intensive cloud computing environment.

Jonathan Abernethy	Lu Chen	Kevin Hunt	Luca Sartore
Peter Beeson	Bruce Craig	Tara Murphy	Steven Wallander
Valbona Bejleri	Andrew Dau	Balgobin Nandram	Ryan Williams
Claire Boryan	Noemi Guindin-Garcia	Anthony Prillaman	Patrick Willis
Maria Bowman	Christopher Hawthorn	Arthur Rosales	Grace Yoon



CATEGORY 3 - AWARD FOR FOSTERING AN EQUITABLE AND COMPETITIVE MARKETPLACE FOR ALL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS



Packers and Stockyards Act Fair and Competitive markets Rulemaking Team

Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service

For your dedication in crafting significant and highly complex regulations to create fair and more competitive markets.

Wayne H. Basford	Jeffrey A. Feirick	Gary J. May
Amy R. Blechinger	Peyton Ferrier	Laurel May
William K. Brake	Stuart D. Frank	Rebecca Nemeec
Katharine Bundy	Norma (Joell) Gilham	Jaina L. Nian
Jerry Chapin	Jonathan Gordy	Steven B. Offutt
Carlynnne Cockrum	Brian Hill	Kraig J. Roesch
Joseph Cooper	Troy Hillier	Julie S. Shiflett
Adam Diamond	Kelsey A. Hopkins	Kevin E. Smith
Samantha Dorsey	Elizabeth Kruman	Kole Swanser
Thomas E. Duggan	Jing (Janet) Liang	Patricia L. Tolle
Peter Feather	Weylin T. Lucius	Sherry Wise

Indigenous Animals Harvesting and Meat Processing Grant Program Team

Rural Development -Rural Business Cooperative Service

For developing first-in-the-nation grant program for the unique processing and cultural requirements for indigenous animals

Tedd Buelow	Melissa Nicks
Rachel Cerruti	Nancy Pletcher
Nicholas Chiumenti	Matthew Russell
Chrystel Cornelius	Sara Stapleton
Margaret Haidet	Melissa Sturdivant
Ventana Harding	Gail Thuner
Christine Kimball	Emily West
Shannon Moon	



CATEGORY 3 - AWARD FOR FOSTERING AN EQUITABLE AND COMPETITIVE MARKETPLACE FOR ALL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS



Rural Business Development Grant Tribal Equity Regulation Team

Rural Development - Rural Development Innovation Center

For reducing barriers to program access Rural Business Development Grants for Tribal nations and businesses, supporting Tribal communities' economic goals.

Tedd Buelow

Lauren Cusick

Will Dodson

Josiah Griffin

Cindy Mason

Katherine Anne Mathis

Melissa Sturdivant

Heather Dawn Thompson

Single Family Housing Tribal Champions Team

Rural Development - Rural Housing Service

For creating access to affordable housing in Tribal communities through a non-profit relending pilot program.

Brooke Baumann

Tedd Buelow

David Corwin

Trish Cousins

Julie Czappa

Andria Hively

Brian Hudson

Dana Kleinsasser

Laurie Mohr

Ingrid Ripley

Melissa Sturdivant

Sara Theileke

Joaquin Tremols

Ticia Weare



CATEGORY 4 - AWARD FOR PROVIDING ALL AMERICANS SAFE, NUTRITIOUS FOOD



New State MPI Program Onboarding Team

Food Safety and Inspection Service

For development of updated procedures for adding States to State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program, providing additional slaughter and processing capacity for farmers and ranchers.

Leslye Beswick	Amanda Krot
Terry Black	Marvin Lykes
Scott Coker	Jeanetta Tankson
Jonathan Coleman	Luca Thompson
Ugo Emeaba	Cynthia Whitley
Brian Fong	

Healthy Meal Incentives Initiative Team

Food and Nutrition Service

Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative improves school meals by transforming food systems and school food authority recognition.

Sara Bennett
Jeewon Chang
Sheldon Gordon
Brittany Gorman
Kaushalya Heendeniya
Nancy Katz
Amy Mazerall
Waleska Medina-Cannon
Kaylyn Padovani
Carrie Scheidel
Bethany Showell
Kimberly Visoni
Alicia White



CATEGORY 4 - AWARD FOR PROVIDING ALL AMERICANS SAFE, NUTRITIOUS FOOD



WIC Infant Formula Resiliency Team

Food and Nutrition Service

Response to an unprecedented supply chain disruption ensuring that millions of WIC babies had access to safe infant formula.

Patricia Bailey	Kiley Larson
Shenique Bridges	Sara Olson
Clarissa (Claire) Brown	Daniel Perez-Lopez
Riley Carbonneau	Allison Post
Cheryl Funanich	Nancy Ranieri
Gregory French	Dana Rasmussen
Kristin Garcia	Latisha Savoy
Anna Gordon	Valery Soto
Amy Herring	Andrea Whitley
Melanie Hymes	Sarah Widor
Emma Kingsbury	

GusNIP Team

Research, Education, and Economics, National Institute of Food and Agriculture

For implementing GusNIP, to advance food and nutrition security within historically underserved communities

Matthew Browning	Stephanie Morriss
Maria Crespo Seshompo	Yamilis Ocasio
Sheila Fleischhacker	Marga Ortiz
Heather Garcia	Gabriel Sandler
Pascale Jean	Shakeeva Shepherd
Cierrah Kassetas	Stephanie Smith
Elizabeth Kerling	Suzanne Stluka
Mallory Koenings	Shoushan Zeng
Ryan Kornegay	



CATEGORY 5 - AWARD FOR EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN RURAL AND TRIBAL COMMUNITIES



Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program and Fertilizer Production Expansion Program Teams

Rural Development -Rural Business Cooperative Service

For work on the HBIP and FPEP Grants to increase production of biofuels, reduce production costs, and create better markets

Kelly Bogle
Jonathan Burns
Anthony Crooks
Jeff Carpenter
Rachel Cerruti
Kacy Elkins
Lisa Noty
Nancy Pletcher
Kasey Watson

Single Family Housing Direct Disaster Team

Rural Development - Rural Housing Service

For innovative and responsive use of program authorities to maximize impacts of the rural home repair program

Blaine Barnes	Cathy Glover
Brooke Baumann	Andria Hively
Tom Carew	Karen Priestly
Rachel Chambers	Jackie Susmann
Caroline Evans	Anthony Williams



CATEGORY 5 - AWARD FOR EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN RURAL AND TRIBAL COMMUNITIES



Procurement Forecast Automation Team

Departmental Administration – Office of Contracting Procurement

For the implementation of the Procurement Forecast Tool that increased small business engagement in contracting opportunities.

Donald W. Baker Jr.

George A. Sears
Richard Toothman
Michelle Warren

Forest Service Inaugural Equity Team

Forest Service

In recognition of a ground-breaking all-agency summit to advance the journey to becoming an equity-centered Forest Service.

Patricia Ballard
Rebecca Buxton
Amber Carillo
Brad Fuller
Michael Hill
Erica Hupp
Gina Ikeda
Chalonda Jasper

Tasha Lo Porto
Chris Manning
Ashley Miller
Belinda Mollard
Valencia Morris
Georgia Ortega-Cox
Romeo Pereles
Diana Perez

Surina Singh
Gabrielle “Gabe” Snider
Hunt Spear
Shandra Terry
Jessica Torres
Dora Tovar
Sherri Wormstead

***CATEGORY 6 - AWARD FOR ATTRACTING, INSPIRING, AND RETAINING AN
ENGAGED AND MOTIVATED WORKFORCE THAT'S PROUD TO REPRESENT USDA***



Child Nutrition Racial and Cultural Awareness Workgroup

Food and Nutrition Service

For nurturing a DEIA program to increase racial and cultural awareness for a more inclusive and respectful workplace.

Darrick Butler	Talitha Jordan	Sarah Smith-Holmes
Ivette Del Torro	Wanda McNeil	Shawnee Sweeney
Suzanne Diggs	Debra Nigri	Mydina Thabet
Anne Fiala	Jessica Saracino	Timothy Wepplo
Steven Gaither	Stacey Sheffey	
Sheldon Gordon	Bethany Showell	

Southeast Regional Office, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Food and Nutrition Service

Ensuring program compliance, providing excellent customer service, and supporting professional development for regional staff.

Gwen Daniels

Personnel Document Security Division Programs Team

Departmental Administration – Office of Homeland Security

Winning with Teamwork

Craig A. Aughe
Tammy Colburn-Smith
Karen F. Maguire
Megan Moses

Farm Production and Conservation

For an innovative approach to constantly evolving business practices resulting in exceeding the Small Business goals.

Sheryl C. Welch



**CATEGORY 6 - AWARD FOR ATTRACTING, INSPIRING, AND RETAINING AN
ENGAGED AND MOTIVATED WORKFORCE THAT'S PROUD TO REPRESENT USDA**



Departmental Administration – Office of Operations

For unwavering commitment, innovation, and exceptional contributions in the Central Mail Unit to support USDA offices.

Paul Washington

Mobile Security Migration Team

Office of the Chief Information Officer

For the successful migration of 50,000 USDA mobile devices to secure, capable, and cost-effective management services.

Shawn Bjorgaard
Dan Boss
Ann Brandt
Matthew Cox
Frank Feustel
Zachary Freeman
Gerald Gonzales
Vinod Gulati
Victor Hankinson

Jeff Harriss
Michael Houseworth
David Kwong
Rebecca Lading
Vatrina Mardre
Robert Meredith
Marshawny Moore
Phil Mosley
Kim Neely

Stephen Ong-Hay
Dewayne Potts
Randy Rhyne
David Salaman
Emma Schnepf
Trina Tuttle
Mark Warren
Gerald Washington

Control Correspondence Team

Forest Service

For improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Controlled Correspondence process and quality of responses.

Elizabeth Cooper
Debbie Cress
Karen Middleton
Laurie Montgomery
Angelica Quintana
Anthony Scardina
Patricia Suchodolski



THEMED AWARDS



Dedication Beyond Measure: Celebrating Extraordinary Commitment to Serving the American People

Dr. Rebecca Schmidt-Jeffris

Research, Education, and Economics, Agricultural Research Service

Samuel J. Heyman, or *SAMMIES*, Emerging Leaders finalist for engaging in pioneering work that deploys insects as natural predators against other bugs that damage crops such as apples and pears, limiting the use of harmful pesticides, saving farmers money and protecting the environment.

Dr. J. Vincent Edwards

Mission Area, Staff Office

Samuel J. Heyman, or *SAMMIES*, Science, Technology and Environment finalist for developing innovative and highly effective new cotton-based medical gauze and dressings for trauma and chronic wound patients that are now in use by hospitals and first responders.

SNAP Online Purchasing Team

Food and Nutrition Service

Samuel J. Heyman, or *SAMMIES*, represented by Lisa Gifaldi, Shelly Pierce and Andrea Gold-O'Conner, Management Excellence finalist for creating a system that has allowed millions of low-income urban and rural residents lacking access to supermarkets and healthy food choices to use Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits to purchase food.



*2023 PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARDS
DISTINGUISHED EXECUTIVE AWARD*



Cathy Glover

Deputy Administrator
Single Family Housing
Rural Development



*2023 PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARDS
MERITORIOUS EXECUTIVE AWARD*



Stuart A. Bender

Director
Office of Ethics
USDA

*2023 PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARDS
MERITORIOUS EXECUTIVE AWARD*



Laurence D. Chandler

USDA ARS
Director, Plains Area
Ft. Collins, CO

*2023 PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARDS
MERITORIOUS EXECUTIVE AWARD*



Christopher B. French

Deputy Chief, National Forest System, USFS

*2023 PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARDS
MERITORIOUS EXECUTIVE AWARD*



Roger W. Glendenning

Chief Operating Officer
Rural Development

*2023 PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARDS
MERITORIOUS EXECUTIVE AWARD*



Tameka Owens

Assistant Administrator
Food and Nutrition Service



*2023 PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARDS
MERITORIOUS EXECUTIVE AWARD*



Kevin Shea

Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary, USDA

*2023 PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARDS
MERITORIOUS EXECUTIVE AWARD*



Jeffrey Silverstein

Deputy Administrator
Office of National Programs
Animal Production and Protection
Agricultural Research Service

*2023 PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARDS
MERITORIOUS EXECUTIVE AWARD*



Pamela Starke-Reed

Deputy Administrator
Nutrition, Food Safety and Product Quality/New Uses
ARS Ethics & Scientific Integrity Officer
Agricultural Research Service, USDA

*2023 PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARDS
MERITORIOUS EXECUTIVE AWARD*



Soumaya M. Tohamy

Assistant Administrator
OEED, FSIS, USDA

*2023 PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARDS
MERITORIOUS SENIOR PROFESSIONAL*



William P. Kustas

USDA-ARS Hydrology & Remote Sensing Lab





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This endeavor would not have been possible without the diligence and hard work demonstrated by the Office of the Secretary, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and the Office of Human Resources Management. The Department of Agriculture renders our warmest and sincerest gratitude for your contributions to the success of this event.

Office the Executive Secretariat
Office of Executive Services
Office of Communications
Office of Operations
Office of Contracting and Procurement
2023 Honor Awards Review Panel

Special thanks are also extended to the dozens of people who contributed to the Secretary's 73rd Honor Award Program in myriad ways behind the scenes, from shepherding nomination packages through the approval process, to serving as ushers for the ceremony, and arranging travel for this year's honorees. All of your collaborative and engaged efforts have come together in this celebration of some of the finest achievements of The People's Department.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
May 2024

