



71<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL  
HONOR  
AWARDS  
PROGRAM

OCTOBER 16, 2019  
HERBERT C. HOOVER AUDITORIUM



# 71<sup>ST</sup> HONOR AWARDS PROGRAM

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THE HERBERT C. HOOVER BUILDING AUDITORIUM  
1401 Constitution Avenue NW

October 16, 2019

INTRODUCTION

Thomas Gilman  
*Chief Financial Officer/Assistant Secretary for Administration*

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Armed Forces Color Guard

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Tishema Miller

WELCOME

Karen Dunn Kelley  
*Deputy Secretary*

ADDRESS

Honorable Wilbur Ross  
*Secretary of Commerce*

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS

Thomas Gilman  
*Chief Financial Officer/Assistant Secretary for Administration*

PRESENTATION OF GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS

Secretary Ross assisted by Department Officials





## MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

Welcome to our 71st Annual Honor Awards Ceremony.

For more than 100 years, the U.S. Department of Commerce has pursued one overarching purpose: Helping the American private sector innovate and grow, creating new job opportunities for millions of Americans.

In today's rapidly changing and competitive world, this mission is more critical than ever before.

Our nation's security and prosperity depend on our employees taking the initiative to rebuild and reinvigorate every aspect of American industry.

The talented men and women we are honoring today have set a high bar for public service.

They are on the front lines of opening new markets; fostering leading-edge science and research; promoting innovation and invention; measuring the intricacies of our economy and our population; safeguarding our country's most sensitive technologies; creating incentives for investment; and monitoring our turbulent oceans and atmosphere.

Every day, the work that is being done by our employees positively impacts every American, and millions of people around the globe.

In my travels throughout the country and the world, I am guided by an incredibly dedicated and professional corps of Commerce Department employees.

Through your commitment, sacrifice, and hard work, our honorees have gone the extra mile to deliver exceptional results for American businesses, workers, and families.

It is with great pride and pleasure that I congratulate each of our 2019 Gold and Silver Honor Awards recipients.

Please continue to be the positive role models and mentors we need for the continued success of our Department and our country.

Wilbur Ross  
U.S. Secretary of Commerce



## GOLD MEDAL

This award, the highest honorary award given by the Department, is granted by the Secretary for distinguished performance characterized by extraordinary, notable, or prestigious contributions that impact the mission of the Department and/or one or more operating units.



## SILVER MEDAL

This award, the second highest honorary award given by the Department, is granted by the Secretary for exceptional performance characterized by noteworthy or superlative contributions that have a direct and lasting impact within the Department.

To warrant a Gold or Silver Medal, a contribution must focus on qualitative and quantitative performance measures reflected in the Department's Strategic Plan and be identified in one of the following areas:

Leadership

Personal and Professional Excellence

Scientific/Engineering Achievement

Organizational Development

Customer Service

Administrative/Technical Support

Heroism

# BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

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**GOLD MEDAL**  
**CUSTOMER SERVICE**

**Shelly Smith**  
**Benjamin Cowan**  
**David Wasshausen**  
**Pamela Kelly**  
**Brendan Leary**  
**Robert Kornfeld**

*Bureau of Economic Analysis*

**Demetra Lytras**  
**Kathleen McDonald Johnson**

*U.S. Census Bureau*

The group is honored for improving existing and developing new statistics that enhance the understanding of U.S. economic performance. As a collaborative, interagency effort, the group investigated approaches used by Federal statistical agencies to identify trends in economic data, modernized the measurement of GDP, introduced new tools, and engaged with customers and the statistical community. As a result, the accuracy of BEA statistics was improved, new data for analyzing the performance of the economy were introduced, and customer confidence in the quality of DOC data was enhanced.



**GOLD MEDAL**  
**CUSTOMER SERVICE**

**Ledia Guci**  
**Kirubel Aysheshim**  
**Ralph Rodriguez**  
**Sharon Panek**  
**Frank Baumgardner**  
**Jacob Hinson**  
**JD Montgomery**

*Bureau of Economic Analysis*

The group is honored for innovation in developing GDP by county statistics. These new statistics provide a rich picture of the geographic distribution of the Nation's economic activity and shed light upon the performance of local economies. These first-of-their-kind statistics allow business leaders, policymakers, and the public to better understand what drives economic growth at the local level and how local growth trends relate to the Nation's overall economic performance.

# BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

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## GOLD MEDAL LEADERSHIP

**Jason Rhoads  
Jason Seltzer  
Tina Chang  
Sara Moe  
Paul Mack  
Scot Gonzales**

*Office of the Assistant Secretary for  
Export Enforcement  
Bureau of Industry and Security*

The group is honored for their unique collaboration with departmental resources and those of additional government agencies to identify, disrupt, and collect valuable information relating to the illicit procurement attempts of a State terrorism sponsor. The group identified U.S.-origin commodities suspected of going directly to the leadership of a terrorism-sponsoring regime, and initiated actions that ultimately provided the U.S. Government with a first-of-its-kind opportunity to collect valuable information on illicit procurement routes and activities and potential insights into the regime leadership.



## GOLD MEDAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

**Bradford Binkley  
Joanna Stelnicki  
Robert Dugan  
Janice Manzano  
Peter Meyers**

*Office of the Assistant Secretary for  
Export Enforcement  
Bureau of Industry and Security*

The group is recognized for working diligently over the past 3 years on a complex domestic/international investigation that identified and closed down a network of individuals that conspired together in setting up fake businesses and threatened violence to broker the export of valuable scrap metal for shipment to foreign customers. As a result of the investigation and the nominee's efforts, the network of individuals was dismantled, and seven defendants pleaded guilty to the charges given.



# BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

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**GOLD MEDAL**

**PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Michael Bollinger  
Ari Kozlow**

*Office of the Assistant Secretary for  
Export Enforcement  
Bureau of Industry and Security*

**R. Elizabeth Abraham  
Zachary Klein**

*Chief Counsel for Industry and Security  
Bureau of Industry and Security*

The group is recognized for investigative excellence in detecting, disrupting, and prosecuting a complex illegal export scheme developed by Access USA's former CEO Eric Baird. This scheme resulted in policies and practices that circumvented U.S. export regulations, as well as caused, aided, or abetted the filing of false export control documents, as well as falsely undervaluing and describing items controlled for export. The case resulted in penalties totaling \$44,000,000 including the highest civil penalty imposed against an individual and second-highest imposed against a corporation in BIS history.



**GOLD MEDAL**

**PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Thomas F. Smith  
Michael Perry  
Michael Zaborowski  
Rachel Moreland  
Todd Harris  
Patrick Tinling  
John Haberstock**

*Office of the Assistant Secretary for  
Export Enforcement  
Bureau of Industry and Security*

The group is recognized for working diligently over the last 3 years on a complex international investigation that identified and closed down a network diverting sensitive U.S.-origin goods that were transshipped through Hong Kong to China in violation of export control laws, and prosecuted its violators. As a result of the investigation and the nominee's efforts, the proliferation network was dismantled and the defendant was sentenced to 8 months in jail, 3 years supervised probation, paid \$100,000 in fines, and accepted a suspended 3-year export denial order.

# BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

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GOLD MEDAL

PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

**John Haberstock**  
**Scott Anderson**  
**Michael Bloomfield**

*Office of the Assistant Secretary for  
Export Enforcement  
Bureau of Industry and Security*

The group is honored for identifying and working with international partners to obtain the most comprehensive dataset of shell companies owned by Iran and North Korea in three of the most strategic transshipment countries: Hong Kong, Malaysia, and Singapore. This information illuminated new illicit procurement pathways that resulted in BIS and partner countries, including the Department of the Treasury, taking direct enforcement action and sanctions' determinations.



## SILVER MEDAL

### SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

**Alessandro Ferrucci**  
**Benjamin Whitley**  
**Sothiara Em**  
**Jay Occhiogrosso**  
**Megan Ruhnke**  
**Vickie McIntire**  
**Tamara Adams**  
**Benjamin Goswick**  
**Stephanie Studts**

*U.S. Census Bureau*

The group is honored for inventing a route optimizer system, called MOJO, to improve enumerator and field operation efficiency. To address rising costs and declining response rates, the Census Bureau plans to conduct the most automated decennial census in history. This MOJO system leverages data and technology to assign optimal routes and workloads for Field Representatives. In the 2018 End-To-End Census Test, the implementation of the new MOJO system resulted in a production rate of 1.5 cases per hour, an approximately 42 percent increase in Field Representative productivity over the 2010 Census.



## SILVER MEDAL

### CUSTOMER SERVICE

**David Aliff**  
**Karla L. Allen**  
**Kelly A. Bannister**  
**Pam Miller**  
**Jennifer A. Bulvin**  
**Mark Davis**  
**Kimberly S. Finazzo**  
**Fernando J. Leonard**  
**Jean L. Mann**  
**Christopher T. Miller**

*U.S. Census Bureau*

The group is honored for customer service excellence in IT delivery services, providing customers procuring software licenses and computing devices more than \$13 million in actual cost savings and over \$16 million in avoiding duplicate purchases for a total savings of \$29 million. The group conducted and applied market research, investigated proposed requirements for actual utilization and overlaps in organizational need, and leveraged the collected data to effectively negotiate with industry for competitive pricing. The group's focus on business outcome efforts were supported by the requesting customers and purchasing partners.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

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## GOLD MEDAL LEADERSHIP

### **Phil Paradice**

*Office of Regional Affairs  
Economic Development Administration*

Mr. Paradice is nominated for distinguished performance characterized by extraordinary personal leadership and management that produced substantial achievements for the Economic Development Administration during the execution of the FY 2018 EDA Disaster Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), funds appropriated by Congress in 2017 for disaster relief and recovery, as a result of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, and other calendar year natural disasters.



## SILVER MEDAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

### **Nympha Garces**

*Office of Regional Affairs  
Economic Development Administration*

Ms. Garces is honored for her distinguished performance managing a portfolio equivalent to that of three FTEs for EDA's Seattle Regional Office, as the lone, effective Civil Engineer for the region. With her persistence, dedication, flexibility, and willingness to take on additional responsibilities, Ms. Garces kept all active projects in the region progressing by being responsive to recipients, and maintaining an enormous portfolio of projects at high standards in compliance with regulatory requirements.

# INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

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**GOLD MEDAL**

**PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Enforcement and Compliance  
Global Markets  
Industry and Analysis**

*International Trade Administration*

The team is honored for superb performance and collaboration in achieving the Agency Priority Goal to reduce/remove/prevent trade barriers. The team developed and implemented an action plan that leveraged DOC's global footprint and expertise, industry input, and policy levers. The plan capitalized on the unique roles and skill sets within the ITA to advance a next generation set of trade enforcement activities to resolve trade barriers in a commercially meaningful timeframe. This resulted in a record number of trade barriers resolved, ensuring continued access for over \$6 billion in U.S. exports.



**GOLD MEDAL**

**PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Chris Rasmussen  
Natalie Soroka  
Anne Flatness  
Elizabeth Clark  
Jeffrey Williams  
Scott Kennedy  
Forrest Nielsen**

*Industry & Analysis  
International Trade Administration*

**Kathryn Nickerson  
Leah Liston**

*Chief Counsel for International Commerce  
International Trade Administration*

The group is honored for its extraordinary dedication, wide-ranging expertise, and skill in conducting all phases of a national security investigation of the impact of imported automotive goods. The group organized public comments and a public hearing, analyzed input and data from numerous sources, and performed economic modeling analysis to demonstrate the impact of those imports on the economy and national security. It assisted the Secretary of Commerce in making recommendations to the President on how best to meet the Nation's economic and security needs.

# INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

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**GOLD MEDAL**  
**PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

## **Bureau of Industry and Security**

*Office of the Assistant Secretary for  
Export Administration  
Bureau of Industry and Security*

## **International Trade Administration**

*Enforcement and Compliance  
International Trade Administration*

The Bureau of Industry and Security and the International Trade Administration are honored for creating a unique infrastructure to handle tens of thousands of requests for exclusion from the President's Section 232 steel and aluminum tariffs. In 3 months, they established evaluation processes and online web resources; executed multi-million-dollar contracts; organized one of the most successful Commerce collaborative team efforts; and developed an extensive technical training program. The unprecedented complexity and scope of the project makes their success even more remarkable.



**GOLD MEDAL**  
**PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

## **Christopher Quinlivan**

**Susan Wilson  
Marta Haustein  
Christopher Wong  
Thomas Dycus  
Janice Wingo  
Michelle Ouellette**

*Global Markets  
International Trade Administration*

## **Ryan Mulholland**

*Industry & Analysis  
International Trade Administration*

The group is honored for their work to strengthen U.S. economic and national security by enforcing U.S. intellectual property (IP) protection related to a trade secret theft in China. When a U.S. high-tech manufacturer approached the U.S. Government for help, this team began a tenacious 7-year effort to hold Chinese bad actors accountable. The high profile and costly trade secret theft cost hundreds of U.S. jobs. The team coordinated a U.S. Government effort over a 7-year period, resulting in a court-ordered restitution of \$57.5 million in July 2018.

# INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

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SILVER MEDAL

PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

**Charles Ranado**  
**Eli Corso-Phinney**  
**Anna Janczewska**  
**Danielle Caltabiano**

*Global Markets*  
*International Trade Administration*

The team is recognized for supporting U.S. energy companies' efforts to sell liquid natural gas to Poland, supporting a pledge made by President Trump and European Commission President Juncker to strengthen strategic energy cooperation. The GM Poland team executed non-traditional programming to promote U.S. liquefied natural gas (LNG), setting the ground work for long-term U.S. participation in the lucrative Polish energy market. Three U.S. companies signed long-term agreements with Poland, expected to generate billions of dollars of revenue for American suppliers.



SILVER MEDAL

PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

**Eugene Alford**

*Industry & Analysis*  
*International Trade Administration*

Mr. Alford is honored for sustained excellence in the development and execution of U.S. international aviation policy that led to new, commercially significant agreements with major trading partners, including the United Kingdom, Japan, and Russia, as well as his interagency leadership in the successful removal of barriers in discussions with Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and India. His industry expertise, ability to coordinate across ITA offices and with other U.S. Government agencies, and negotiating skills ensured the greatest benefit to the U.S. aviation industry and the broader U.S. economy.

# INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

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SILVER MEDAL

PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

**Global Markets  
Industry and Analysis  
Office of Technology, Services and Innovation**

*International Trade Administration*

The group is honored for developing and deploying the Market Diversification Tool. This new web-based application harnesses large datasets to help U.S. exporters connect to more foreign markets. The Tool combines product-level trade data and country-level economic and logistical information in a versatile calculation. This enables users to quickly conduct initial export market research, presenting a ranked list of possible additional export markets. Providing this utility through a user-friendly online portal helps U.S. companies find their next export market.



SILVER MEDAL

PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

**Julie Al-Saadawi  
Julia Hancock  
Alis Asadurian  
Kamila Khamidova  
Randall Oliver  
Derek King  
Bhargav Desai  
Michael Rollin**

*Enforcement and Compliance  
International Trade Administration*

**Yingying Xu**

*Industry & Analysis  
International Trade Administration*

This team is recognized for developing an innovative methodology to identify unusual trade patterns and practices following the issuance of AD and CVD orders. With this new ability to proactively identify circumstances that suggest circumvention of an AD/CVD order, Enforcement and Compliance will be able to move much more quickly to formally investigate those cases and, where warranted, take corrective action. This successful new model will be an important contributor to strong enforcement of the country's trade remedies and the critical relief they provide to U.S. industry.



# INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

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**SILVER MEDAL**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

**Global Markets  
Industry and Analysis  
Office of the Chief Financial and  
Administrative Officer**

### *International Trade Administration*

The ITA Coaching Cadre, consisting of staff across the ITA, is honored for going above and beyond normal day-to-day duties, and volunteering to create and implement ITA's innovative internal coaching program, despite significant time, staffing, and resource constraints. This program directly supports employee growth, development, and engagement, and furthers the goals of the Office of Management and Budget, the Office of Personnel Management, the Department of Commerce, and the ITA, to foster a coaching and learning culture in support of organizational and operational excellence.



**SILVER MEDAL**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

**Benjamin Hardman**

*Industry & Analysis  
International Trade Administration*

Mr. Hardman is honored for re-imagining and revitalizing ITA's STOPfakes Roadshow program, and making other significant enhancements to the ITA and interagency STOPfakes outreach. Between May 2018 and March 2019, he planned, organized, managed, and presented nine new STOPfakes roadshows: in Seattle, Portland, Dallas, Austin, Phoenix, Tucson, Philadelphia, Kansas City, and St. Louis. He pioneered and advanced the production of two new series of publications on the STOPfakes.gov website: industry Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Toolkits, and country snapshots.

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

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**GOLD MEDAL  
LEADERSHIP**

## **Sheng Lin-Gibson**

*Material Measurement Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

## **Clare Allocca**

*Laboratory Programs  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

The team is recognized for extraordinary leadership in establishing the infrastructure for U.S. influence and participation in global biotechnology standards development. They filled a U.S. leadership void in The International Organization for Standardization (ISO), and created an inclusive, collaborative environment among 100+ organizations to best represent U.S. interests while promoting international cooperation. Their efforts made the complex standardization world accessible to U.S. industry, and led to the development of global consensus standards that promote responsible biotechnology innovation and commercialization.



**GOLD MEDAL  
PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

## **Associate Director for Laboratory Programs Associate Director for Management Resources Director's Office**

*National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

The organization is recognized for leading the world to the most significant redefinition of the International System of Units (SI) since its origin. This scientific evidence-based framework moves the SI from a system of artifacts established in the 19th century, with arbitrary definitions, to a set of units based upon fundamental constants of nature that improves its support for our high-tech economy. The General Conference on Weights and Measures (CGPM) voted unanimously in November 2018 at its 26th meeting in Versailles, France to adopt the redefinition, effective May 20, 2019.

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

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## GOLD MEDAL

### SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

**Mark Luce**  
**Nolan Brandenburg**

*Management Resources  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

**Jacob Ricker**  
**Jay Hendricks**

*Physical Measurement Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

The team is recognized for setting the standard of historical document preservation. Building on earlier success with the “Charters of Freedom” documents, the team developed innovative sealing technology consisting of critical sensors, predictive modeling, and a data collection architecture that provide real-time monitoring of document health, at significantly lower cost. The new standard encasement technology now enables these historical artifacts (seven documents in all) to be preserved for the next 100 years and enjoyed by millions of yearly visitors.



## GOLD MEDAL

### SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

**Thomas Hedberg, Jr.**  
**Moneer Helu**  
**Allison Barnard Feeney**  
**Brian A. Weiss**

*Engineering Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

**Mark Luce**

*Management Resources  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

**Alden Dima**

*Information Technology Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

The group is honored for exceptional leadership in developing the NIST Smart Manufacturing Systems Test Bed, which enables transformative innovation in manufacturing through the adoption of critical digital technologies. As the first standards-based integration of manufacturing systems, the Test Bed provides foundational documents, open data, and technology demonstrations. These outputs support innovation in commercial software, research, and workforce training, which has led to new products in use by manufacturers and the technical resources needed by industry to use these products reliably.

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

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**GOLD MEDAL**

**SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING  
ACHIEVEMENT**

**Matthew Bundy  
Rodney Bryant  
Matthew Hoehler  
Lisa Choe  
Laurean DeLauter  
Brian Story  
Anthony Chakalis  
Artur Chernovsky**

*Engineering Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

This group is honored for developing unique measurement capabilities at the National Fire Research Laboratory, the only national facility for studying structural performance of full-scale buildings under realistic fire and loading conditions. The new capabilities enable critical measurements of complex behaviors of full-scale, loaded structures exposed to real fires. The facility's purpose is to improve fire safety, and shift the current fire resistance paradigm for buildings to save lives and properties.



**GOLD MEDAL**

**SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING  
ACHIEVEMENT**

**Ramaswamy Chandramouli**

*Information Technology Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

Dr. Chandramouli is recognized for improving cloud computing by developing security recommendations for the core technologies in all cloud computing services. He developed secure configuration options for multiple areas of clouds where many mission-critical applications are run. He analyzed security solutions for the use and deployment of these technologies in multiple environments, and developed the metrics they must satisfy for security assurance requirements. He galvanized industry in adopting the baseline features to establish a set of comparable assurance metrics used globally.

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

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**GOLD MEDAL**

**SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING  
ACHIEVEMENT**

**Laura Sinclair  
Nathan Newbury  
Andrew Ludlow  
David Leibrandt  
David Hume  
Kyle Beloy  
Jeffrey Sherman  
Jun Ye  
William Swann**

*Physical Measurement Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

The team is recognized for creating the world's first network of optical atomic clocks, which provide 100-fold greater accuracy and stability than current microwave clock standards. The ability to network these world-best clocks is especially important to the United States, which must overcome geographical isolation to stay competitive in this fast-changing field. The team is making these advanced capabilities available outside of the lab environment to enable practical advances in precision timing, navigation, communication and computer networks, quantum science, and fundamental physics.



**GOLD MEDAL**

**SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING  
ACHIEVEMENT**

**Adam Jacoff  
Ann Virts  
Kamel Saidi  
Kenny Kimble**

*Engineering Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

The group is recognized for leading international standards' development that produced more than 30 performance tests to quantitatively measure and compare ground robot capabilities for extremely hazardous missions. Robot manufacturers and researchers use these test methods to drive design innovations and highlight best-in-class capabilities. Emergency responders and soldiers use the tests to make robot purchase decisions, focus training, and evaluate operator proficiency. This led to significant capability improvements and safer standoff distances for people performing hazardous tasks.

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

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## GOLD MEDAL

### SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

**Xiaoyu Yang**  
**Pedatsur Neta**  
**Yuxue Liang**  
**Stephen Stein**

*Material Measurement Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

The group is recognized for the development and application of unique measurement methods and novel computational algorithms that led to the extraordinary and efficient expansion of the NIST Tandem Mass Spectral (MS) Library. This library, the highest-quality and most comprehensive MS data resource of its kind in the world, is relied upon for molecular species identification in complex mixtures. The molecules in the library such as metabolites, drugs, pesticides, and a wide range of industrial compounds, are of prime importance for studies in human health, food, environment, and forensics.



## SILVER MEDAL

### LEADERSHIP

**Tom Armstrong**  
**Daniel Gilmore**  
**Steven Smith**  
**John Bollinger**

*Office of Facilities and Property Management  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

**Brian Dougherty**

*Engineering Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

**Thomas Sherman**

*U.S. Census Bureau*

**Timothy Hoseth**

*Assistant General Counsel for  
Administration and Transactions  
Office of the General Counsel*

The group is recognized for superbly performing as a cohesive, cross-agency contracting team that pursued the procurement of a large solar array system for the NIST Gaithersburg campus. The team functioned like a well-oiled machine, employing some new and unique energy-saving contracting tools and strategies to award a \$10 million contract for a 5-megawatt system. Construction was completed rapidly and NIST is now receiving solar generated electricity (enough for 4 percent of its total annual consumption) at a unit rate that is 30 percent below what it pays to the local servicing electric utility company.

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

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SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING  
ACHIEVEMENT

**H. Pieter Mumm**  
**Denis Bergeron**  
**Mark Tyra**  
**Svetlana Nour**  
**Jerome LaRosa**

*Physical Measurement Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

The group is honored for developing novel detector technology and then leading a multi-agency team to demonstrate its applicability for remote real-time monitoring of nuclear reactors. This is a long-standing unresolved concern for the nuclear-safeguards and nonproliferation communities. Their transportable detector system made the first-ever measurement of elusive antineutrino particles from a nuclear reactor operating on the Earth's surface, providing a pathway to avoid the use of multi-million dollar, large-volume detectors constructed deep underground.



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING  
ACHIEVEMENT

**Yun Liu**

*NIST Center for Neutron Research  
National Institute of Standards and  
Technology*

Dr. Liu is recognized for his innovative use of neutron scattering techniques to identify the origin of the problematic high viscosity found in many concentrated solutions of monoclonal antibodies (mAbs). High viscosities cause severe manufacturing difficulties and inhibit distribution of mAbs drugs after injection. Dr. Liu's research has influenced the next generation of therapeutics, and promises to expand significantly the applicability of mAbs, which have proven successful in treating many diseases, including some cancers, achieving a global market value of over \$40 billion to date.

# NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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**GOLD MEDAL**  
**LEADERSHIP**

## **Protected Resources Efficiencies Program**

*National Marine Fisheries Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

The Protected Resources Efficiencies Program (Program) is honored for supporting the U.S. economy, reducing the regulatory burden, improving customer service to the American public, and raising the prestige of the Department through successful and timely execution of the streamlining mandates of multiple Executive orders and Department of Commerce mandates issued in 2017. Specifically, the Program developed innovative measures that reduced regulatory processing times nationally by 25–65 percent for Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and Endangered Species Act (ESA) permits, and ESA Section 7 consultations, while fully executing our protected species conservation mandate.



**GOLD MEDAL**  
**PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Jason Woolard**  
**Jon Sellars**  
**Srinivas Reddy**  
**Maryellen Sault**  
**Gretchen Imahori**  
**Michael Aslaksen**

*National Ocean Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

**Christopher Kerns**  
**Christopher Licitra**

*Office of Marine and Aviation Operations  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

The group is honored for improving technical and administrative processes that expedited the processing, exploitation, and dissemination of emergency response imagery related to response and recovery efforts for 2018 Hurricanes Florence and Michael. Leveraging a combination of technical expertise, cloud-based processing, innovative contract and administrative oversight, and customer service, the group consistently delivered Internet-accessible, high-resolution imagery to the public, Federal, state, and local respondents within 6 hours after the aircraft landed from its 30 individual sorties.



# NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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**GOLD MEDAL**

**SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING  
ACHIEVEMENT**

**Benjamin Richards  
Kresimir Williams  
M. Elizabeth Clarke  
George Cutter  
Deborah Hart  
Charles Thompson  
William Michaels**

*National Marine Fisheries Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

The group is honored for working across NOAA line offices to develop the Video and Image Analytics for Marine Environment (VIAME) and CoralNet toolkit. This is the first automated image recognition software using advanced computer vision and machine learning technology for the marine environment. Scientific programs across NOAA have begun using the toolkit, resulting in immediate cost-savings of 50 percent in processing time, with more precise, consistent, and timely scientific information to enhance knowledge discovery, and more confident decision-making for ocean stewardship.



**GOLD MEDAL**

**SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING  
ACHIEVEMENT**

**Joseph Mangin  
Michelle Detommaso  
Matthew Jochum  
Irene Parker  
Harry Whiteley  
Kate Becker  
James Yoe**

*National Environmental Satellite, Data,  
and Information Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

**Robert Sears  
Chi Kang  
Cameron Shelton**

*Office of the Chief Information Officer  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

The group is honored for execution of NOAA's Commercial Weather Data Pilot, including the first successful ingest of commercial satellite data through the Secure Ingest Gateway. This work lays the groundwork for expanded access to critical data, while also establishing new business models, expanding the use of commercial sector capabilities, and piloting groundbreaking technological approaches to accomplishing NOAA's mission. The group has unleashed myriad data sources and commercial sector capabilities that have the potential to revolutionize NOAA's products and services.

# NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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**GOLD MEDAL**

**ADMINISTRATIVE/  
TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

**Jack Salmon  
Margaret Rankin  
Melissa Sampson  
Andrew Hildebrandt**

*Office of Acquisition and Grants  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

**Florence Bridges**

*Assistant General Counsel for  
Legislation and Regulation  
Office of the General Counsel*

**Greg Scott Raymond  
Zach Cress**

*Office of Marine and Aviation Operations  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

The group is honored for its 10-year effort and steadfast pursuit to obtain permanent legislation for the Secretary of Commerce to waive the statutory requirement for bonds required by 40 U.S.C. Sec. 3131 et seq., on contracts for repair and construction of its fleet of ships. This waiver authority results in increased competition, lower costs, fewer delays to ship schedules, improved quality and safety of the fleet, and aligns the Department of Commerce with commercial practices enabling NOAA to effectively execute its critical programs and for the Department to increase economic opportunity.



**GOLD MEDAL**

**HEROISM**

**Jeff Harris**

*National Marine Fisheries Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

Jeff Harris is honored for saving three people who had abandoned their burning vessel in Puget Sound. Mr. Harris was in transit to join a team of scientists in Neah Bay, Washington, to conduct Steller sea lion surveys, when he heard a Mayday from a burning vessel in his vicinity near Port Townsend. Mr. Harris looked for smoke and arrived at the vessel as a Canadian Coast Guard helicopter searched for survivors. The helicopter could not spot the victims due to the smoke, and left the scene because of low fuel. Mr. Harris then located the victims, and pulled them into his boat to safety.

# NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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## SILVER MEDAL

### SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

#### **Ian Enochs**

*Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

Dr. Enochs is honored for his leadership, tenacity, and creativity in designing and developing the subsurface autosampler (SAS). The SAS was conceived to address the challenge of existing approaches, namely prohibitive expense for commercially available water samplers and less accessible and complicated solutions created by scientists. The SAS is easy to operate, rugged, field-tested, adaptable, and widely accessible via web-based open source design plans with clear assembly instructions. Most importantly, it costs only \$214 to build a unit, compared to \$10,000–\$20,000 to purchase commercial units.



## SILVER MEDAL

### SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

#### **Kelly Stroker Nicole Kurkowski**

*National Environmental Satellite, Data,  
and Information Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

#### **Mike Angove**

*National Weather Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

The group is honored for significant and innovative scientific advancements that led to highly-resolved coastline delineation in areas hardest hit by recent hurricanes, including Puerto Rico, Florida, Texas, and North Carolina. The group blended marine and terrestrial mapping technologies to identify high-resolution shoreline for storm surge and inundation models used to warn coastal communities of tsunami and hurricane hazards. These products are critical to coastal managers, emergency managers, and coastal planners for community preparedness.

# NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING  
ACHIEVEMENT

**Richard Heim**  
**Jesse Enloe**  
**Ahira Sanchez-Lugo**  
**Scott Applequist**  
**John Marra**  
**Chris Fenimore**

*National Environmental Satellite, Data,  
and Information Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

**Charles Guard**  
**Clint Simpson**

*National Weather Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

The group is honored for developing, refining, and implementing methods and tools to enable routine weekly drought monitoring in the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands, consistent with other parts of the United States. The group employed an end-to-end climate services approach, building scientific and technical solutions based upon the region's unique local needs, drought parameters, and climate types. The tools have been lauded and embraced by government and emergency officials in the region, and are now considered essential to their environmental monitoring and response duties.



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING  
ACHIEVEMENT

**Benjamin DeAngelo**  
**Daniel Barrie**  
**Meredith Muth**  
**Roger Pulwarty**

*Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

**William Sweet**  
**Jeffrey Payne**

*National Ocean Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

**David Easterling**  
**Douglas Kluck**  
**Ellen Mecray**

*National Environmental Satellite, Data,  
and Information Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

**Lisamarie Carrubba**

*National Marine Fisheries Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

The group is honored for producing and delivering, on time, the congressionally-mandated 4th National Climate Assessment. It is an authoritative, comprehensive, and broadly-accessible (via a carefully designed web portal) report on observed and projected climatic changes focused on the United States. The report provides an indispensable resource of climate intelligence to inform planning and decision making across key sectors (e.g., water resources, public health, energy) and all regions of the United States.

# NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING  
ACHIEVEMENT

**Robert Hallberg**  
**Stephen Griffies**  
**Matthew Harrison**

*Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

The GFDL MOM6 team is honored for developing the world-class Modular Ocean Model version 6 to strengthen the Nation's longer-range (weekly and beyond timescales) environmental prediction capabilities. MOM6 is the most versatile and cutting-edge ocean model developed in NOAA's history and is a world leader. This effort advances scientific frontiers and novel technical capabilities while providing a creative open development environment that allows the leveraging of the power of community modeling. MOM6 is a major strategic breakthrough in U.S. ocean modeling and predictive capabilities.



SILVER MEDAL

CUSTOMER SERVICE

**Alexander Hoon**

*National Weather Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration*

Alex is honored for providing critical weather forecast information to incident personnel during a rapidly evolving and dangerous situation, ensuring the safety of firefighting personnel. Upon arriving at the Carr Fire, he quickly realized the need to update the forecast, as winds were going to be stronger than expected. Based on his expertise, he coordinated with the FBAN (Building Fire Behavior Analyst) to issue a rare early evening update. This update compelled fire managers to pull firefighters off the line, and execute lifesaving public evacuations ahead of a catastrophic wind event that destroyed more than 1,000 homes.

# NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

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**GOLD MEDAL**  
**PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Carlos L'Abbate**  
**Erickson Trejo-Reyes**  
**Steven Yuen**  
**Arshad Syed**  
**Michael Van Zuiden**  
**Wahab Mirza**  
**Jeffrey Hart**  
**Sally Shepardson**  
**Michael Napolitano**

*First Responder Network Authority  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration*

The group is honored for executing complex technical analysis and program management of the architecture, design, evaluation, and delivery of the dedicated FirstNet Core Network. This achievement is the foundation for all specialized wireless communications to be delivered by the FirstNet network to meet the specific, mission-critical needs of public safety. FirstNet implements the vision of the 9/11 Commission recommendation to provide public safety with a secure, innovative wireless broadband network, devices, and applications that benefit all U.S. citizens.



**SILVER MEDAL**  
**LEADERSHIP**

**Laura Spining**  
**Katherine Bates**  
**Pandora Beasley-Timpson**  
**Elaine Sloan**

*Office of Telecommunications and  
Information Applications  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration*

**Edward Carlson**  
**Rafi Goldberg**

*Office of Policy Analysis and Development  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration*

**James Wasilewski**  
**Alexandrine DeBianchi**  
**Catherine O'Connor**

*Office of Assistant Secretary for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration*

The group is honored for its leadership in building expertise among the State Broadband Leaders Network, resulting in stronger grant, mapping, and assistance programs in 45 states/territories; improved coordination with Federal agencies; and accelerated broadband investment. The team's work contributed to states taking legislative or administrative action to address broadband gaps; develop broadband plans; reduce regulatory barriers; and establish programs to fund broadband infrastructure. Broadband strengthens the Nation's economy, competitiveness, and the quality of life for Americans.

# OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

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**GOLD MEDAL**

**PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Office of the Assistant General Counsel for  
Administration and Transactions  
Office of the Assistant General Counsel for  
Employment, Litigation, and Information  
Office of the Chief Counsel for Economic Affairs**

*Office of the General Counsel*

These organizations are honored for exceptional performance of their duties, and combining their legal talents for more than 1 year to ensure the Secretary of Commerce and the Census Bureau continued to accomplish the necessary planning and preparation to conduct the 2020 Decennial Census mission despite the existence of continued oversight, confrontational publicity, and many hotly-contested, nationwide lawsuits filed in several different United States courts.



**GOLD MEDAL**

**PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Joe Yang  
Zmarak Khan  
Sana Akili  
Anna Mallet  
Megan McMillan  
Jocelyn Steiner  
Arezo Yazd  
John Dickerson  
Laurance Frierson  
Joe Gattuso**

*Chief Counsel for Commercial  
Law Development  
Office of the General Counsel*

The group is cited for the exceptional quality of its assistance to Afghanistan (modernization of legislation/regulations for mining, telecommunications and anti-corruption). In the process, the group created business opportunities for U.S. firms that are now signing contracts with Afghanistan companies. The modernization of the economy resulting from the group's work and the enhanced political stability that will ensue are critically important for U.S. national security.

# OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

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**SILVER MEDAL**  
**PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Daniel Hylton**  
**Jennifer Ivers**

*Chief Counsel for Commercial  
Law Development  
Office of the General Counsel*

**Michele Smith**  
**Giancarlo Cavallo**  
**Ashley Bubna**  
**Ja'Nel Edens**  
**Frederique L.E. Stewart**  
**James Rigassio**  
**Christopher Wilken**  
**Tyler Hacking**

*Global Markets  
International Trade Administration*

The group is honored for its groundbreaking work in drafting, negotiating and implementing Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with Ethiopia, Kenya, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. These MOUs respond to Apr. 2018 recommendations by the President's Advisory Council on Doing Business in Africa (PAC-DBIA) for whole-of-government approaches to help U.S. companies build relationships, shape rules of engagement and win deals in these markets. Already, Commerce has leveraged these MOUs to assist U.S. companies in closing \$2 billion in deals, representing 74% of annual U.S. goods exports to these countries.



**SILVER MEDAL**  
**PERSONAL AND  
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Mohamed Badissy**  
**Kenyon Weaver**  
**Lindsey Scannell**  
**Mohammed Loraoui**  
**Angela Arza**  
**Shareen Bundy**

*Chief Counsel for Commercial  
Law Development  
Office of the General Counsel*

The group is cited for the outstanding quality of the technical assistance in Energy Law that it provided to 16 countries in four continents. In all of these countries, the group helped create a legislative and regulatory environment conducive to private sector investment in power generation projects or in hydrocarbon production projects. This has created significant opportunities for U.S. project development firms which will result in increased exports of U.S.-made equipment. Their work also made key contributions to economic development in Africa where the lack of electric power has stifled.



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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## SILVER MEDAL

### PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

**Pola J. Jones**  
**Philip R. Space**  
**Rajiv Tuli**  
**William L. Wheeler**

*Chief Information Officer*  
*United States Patent and Trademark Office*

**Delbert W. Estey**  
**Mohammad M. Malck**  
**James J. Pickens**  
**Deborah J. Reynolds**  
**William T. Stryjewski**

*Commissioner for Patents*  
*United States Patent and Trademark Office*

The Utility Patent Number Expansion (UPNE) team is honored for notable contributions towards the development and testing of 51 patents' legacy systems to accept Patent Numbers greater than 7 digits, and insure the issuance of patent 10,000,000 and beyond. This required the coordination of multiple teams to test and adjust systems in a short timeframe with significant oversight and coordination, ultimately completing the effort on time and under budget.



## SILVER MEDAL

### CUSTOMER SERVICE

**Michael G. Ambrose**  
**David S. Cammack**  
**Nadia Khoshnoodi**  
**Bena B. Miller**  
**Michael A. Newman**

*Commissioner for Patents*  
*United States Patent and Trademark Office*

**Km Mesbah-ul Islam**  
**Eric Y. Tao**  
**Vu A. Tran**  
**Hieu Trinh**  
**QianQian Yu**

*Chief Information Officer*  
*United States Patent and Trademark Office*

The group is being honored for providing the patent examining corps with the capability to create, post for review, and submit for mailing official correspondence to applicants. The new authoring tool, Official Correspondence (OC), leverages current technology, Microsoft Word, and Google Chrome integrated, as a hybrid solution replacing the legacy tool used for over 20 years. The teams' extraordinary efforts resulted in developing OC in 3 years, capturing the full functionality of the previous tool and incorporating additional features and benefits further improving the users' experience.

Many thanks to those individuals who contributed to today's program:

*Department's Incentive Awards Program Manager:*

Mary O'Connor

*Incentive Awards Program Officers of the Department*

Gianna Marrone – BEA  
Jennifer Boyd – BIS  
Ronnell Yalung – Census  
Laura Stone – EDA  
Matthew Hundemann – ITA  
Morgan Frycklund – NIST  
Darryl Thomas – NOAA  
Kimberly Deare – NTIA  
Jowan Williams – OGC  
Debra Ginther – PTO

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Tishema Miller, Soloist  
Richard Houston, Writer/Editor  
Armed Forces Color Guard  
Mail and Multimedia Division

Honor Awards Ceremony Volunteers





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMERCE