



Department of Veterans Affairs

Senior Executive Biography

Richard J. Griffin

Deputy Inspector General



The Honorable Richard J. Griffin was appointed in November 2008 to the position of Deputy Inspector General, Department of VA. He is responsible for directing a nationwide staff of criminal investigators, auditors, health care inspectors, and support personnel. His office conducts independent oversight reviews to improve the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of VA programs, and to prevent and detect criminal activity, waste, abuse, and fraud. He previously served as VA Inspector General, November 1997 to June 2005, having been nominated by President Clinton in September 1997, and confirmed by the United States Senate in November 1997.

Mr. Griffin came to VA from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Inspector General, where he was the senior adviser to the Inspector General, March 2008 to November 2008, assisting him in managing all aspects of that organization's audits, inspections, investigations, congressional and public affairs, budget, and strategic planning.

Mr. Griffin was nominated by President George W. Bush in April 2005 and confirmed by the Senate in June 2005 to serve as Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Diplomatic Security at Department of State, where he led a global workforce of 32,000 security and law enforcement professionals, June 2005 to November 2007. His office was responsible for ensuring the safe and secure conduct of U.S. diplomacy across the world. He concurrently served as Director of the Office of Foreign Missions, with the rank of Ambassador, where he managed reciprocity and immunity issues for foreign diplomats in the U.S.

Mr. Griffin previously served as Deputy Director at the U.S. Secret Service, where he was responsible for planning and directing all investigative, protective and administrative programs. He began his Secret Service career in 1971, as an agent in the Chicago office. Subsequent positions included: Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Presidential Protective Division; Special Agent in Charge, Los Angeles, California; Deputy Assistant Director in the Office of Investigations; and Assistant Director for Protective Operations.

During his career, he received a number of special achievement awards: Senior Executive Service Presidential Rank Award of Meritorious Executive in 1994 and 2011; and Exceptional Service Award of the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2005, for performance demonstrating the highest levels of integrity, leadership and executive excellence.

Mr. Griffin earned a bachelor's in economics in 1971, from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio; in 1984, he received a master's in business administration from Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia. In May 2004, he received an honorary doctorate in Humane Letters from Marymount University. He is a 1983 graduate of the National War College.