

THOMAS M. HARRIGAN

Deputy Administrator

Thomas M. Harrigan was confirmed as the Deputy Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration by the United States Senate on March 29, 2012, following his nomination by President Obama in February 2011. As Deputy Administrator he is the chief operating officer of the DEA, overseeing all enforcement, intelligence, administrative, and regulatory operations, and is the principal advisor to the DEA Administrator.



Mr. Harrigan began his career as a Special Agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration in 1987 in the New York Field Division. He coordinated enforcement efforts against the notorious Rodriguez-Orejuela drug trafficking organization that led to the arrest and incarceration of several high-ranking members of the Colombian-based cartel, and the seizure of tons of cocaine and illicit proceeds throughout the United States, Colombia, and Panama.

In 1994, Mr. Harrigan was assigned to the Bangkok Country Office. While serving there, he directed an investigation that led to the identification and dismantlement of an organization responsible for the importation of multi-kilogram quantities of heroin into the United States. This organization utilized dozens of U.S. citizens as couriers that smuggled heroin from Southeast Asia to Chicago.

He left Bangkok in 1996 and was promoted to Group Supervisor in the Newark Field Division where he managed a Task Force group that was recognized by state and county officials for its significant enforcement achievements. He was reassigned to DEA Headquarters in 1999 where he served as a Staff Coordinator in the Office of Congressional and Public Affairs.

In 2000, Mr. Harrigan was promoted to the Operations Division as Section Chief of the Dangerous Drugs and Chemicals Section where he oversaw a multi-jurisdictional investigation that resulted in the largest LSD seizure in history. In 2001, he was reassigned as the Deputy Chief in the Office of Domestic Operations. During that time, he served as Senior Advisor to the Chief of Domestic Operations, assisting and providing oversight and direction to Domestic Operations' Section Chiefs on a variety of budgetary and operational matters. He left the Operations Division in 2003 and reported as the Assistant Special Agent in Charge in the Washington Field Division with responsibility over High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Forces, offices in West Virginia, and the Administrative and Special Support Units.

In 2004, Mr. Harrigan was appointed to the Senior Executive Service to serve as the Chief of Enforcement Operations. In this role, Mr. Harrigan was the principal deputy for the Chief of Operations and directed the re-organization of DEA's Operations Division.

In 2009, he was appointed as DEA's Chief of Operations, responsible for leading DEA's global drug enforcement efforts in 227 domestic offices as well as 86 foreign offices in 67 countries, the Special Operations Division, the Aviation Division, the Training Division and the Office of Diversion Control.

Mr. Harrigan, a native of New York City, has a Master's Degree in Education from Seton Hall University and has attended a number of government, military, and private leadership courses including Duke University's Fuqua School of Business Leadership Program. Mr. Harrigan is married and has four children.