



### Biography



#### **JASON E. KEARNS, CHAIR**

Jason E. Kearns, a Democrat of Colorado, is the Chair of the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC).

Chair Kearns was nominated to the USITC by President Barack Obama on January 17, 2017; renominated by President Donald Trump on June 29, 2017; and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on March 1, 2018. He was sworn in as a member of the Commission on April 2, 2018, for a term expiring on December 16, 2024. President Trump designated him Chair for the two-year term expiring June 16, 2022.

Chair Kearns served as trade counsel for 11 years on the Democratic staff of the Committee on Ways and Means of the U.S. House of Representatives, including most recently as Chief International Trade Counsel. Prior to his employment at the Committee on Ways and Means, he was the Assistant General Counsel of the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative from 2003-2006.

Earlier in his career, Chair Kearns practiced international trade law at the law firm of Wilmer, Culter & Pickering (now WilmerHale) from 2000-2003 and worked at the law firm of Mayer, Brown & Platt (now Mayer Brown) from 1995-1998, including a stint in the firm's Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic office.

Chair Kearns holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Denver, a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law, and a Master of Public Policy degree from Harvard University. Originally from Keenesburg, Colorado, he resides in Washington, DC, with his wife, Lindy, and three children, Ellie, Keevan, and Sander.

#### **RANDOLPH J. STAYIN, VICE CHAIR**

Randolph J. Stayin, a Republican of Virginia, is the Vice Chair of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

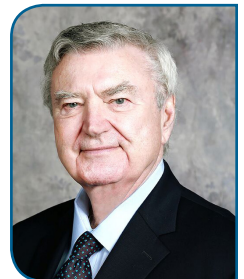
Vice Chair Stayin was nominated to the USITC by President Donald J. Trump on October 2, 2017; renominated on January 16, 2019; and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on August 1, 2019. He was sworn in as a member of the Commission on August 23, 2019, for a term expiring on June 16, 2026. President Trump designated him Vice Chair for the two-year Vice Chair term expiring on June 16, 2022.

Vice Chair Stayin has had more than 40 years of litigation, legislative, and regulatory advocacy experience in international trade policy, trade law, and regulatory compliance. As an attorney in private practice, he represented clients in antidumping and countervailing duty proceedings, including investigations, sunset reviews, administrative reviews, scope reviews, and anti-circumvention investigations. In addition, global safeguard investigations under section 201, investigations of unfair trade practices under section 301, section 232 national security investigations, and investigations related to the Generalized System of Preferences were also significant in his practice. He has litigated appeals before the U.S. Court of International Trade, the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) dispute resolution panels.

Vice Chair Stayin is the former Chief of Staff and Director of Legislation to U.S. Senator Robert Taft, Jr., of Ohio. In this role, he led key legislative and political campaigns, advised on proposed legislation and policy implementation, served as the Senator's lead adviser in negotiating the passage of the Trade Act of 1974, and managed the Senator's legislative, political, and support staffs on Capitol Hill and in Ohio.

Prior to his confirmation, Vice Chair Stayin also maintained a nonprofit trade association consulting practice, advising clients on a range of nonprofit issues, including legislation, policy, trade, contracts, corporation, employment, technical standards, and antitrust matters.

Vice Chair Stayin holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Dartmouth College and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Cincinnati Law School. He is originally from Cincinnati, Ohio. He resides with his wife, Sharon, in Alexandria, VA, and has three children: Gregory, Todd, and Elizabeth.



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### DAVID S. JOHANSON

David S. Johanson, a Republican of Texas, was nominated to the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) by President Barack Obama on April 8, 2011, and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on October 31, 2011. He was sworn in as a member of the Commission on December 8, 2011, for a Commission term expiring on December 16, 2018. He served as Chairman of the USITC by operation of law from June 17, 2018, to June 16, 2020. He was Vice Chairman of the USITC from August 11, 2016, to June 16, 2018.

Commissioner Johanson served as International Trade Counsel on the Republican staff of the Committee on Finance of the U.S. Senate from 2003 until his appointment. While on the staff of the Committee on Finance, he was responsible for legislative and policy matters involving negotiations of the World Trade Organization, the Free Trade Area of the Americas, the Trans Pacific Partnership, and numerous free trade agreements. He assisted in the passage of implementing legislation for free trade agreements between the United States and Australia, Bahrain, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Panama, Peru, Singapore, and Korea. He also worked on legislative matters concerning trade preference programs (the Generalized System of Preferences, the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the Caribbean Basin Initiative, and the Andean Trade Preference Act), Miscellaneous Tariff Bills, Trade Adjustment Assistance, and the trade related provisions of the 2008 Farm Bill.

Prior to his employment at the Committee on Finance, he practiced international trade law for six years at the law firm of Stewart and Stewart in Washington, D.C. Earlier in his career, he worked for Senator Phil Gramm (R-TX), Representative Wally Herger (R-CA), and Representative George Radanovich (R-CA).

Commissioner Johanson holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Stanford University, a Master of Philosophy degree from Cambridge University, and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Texas School of Law. Commissioner Johanson is an Eagle Scout. He is originally from Austin, Texas.

### RHONDA K. SCHMIDTLEIN

Rhonda K. (Schnare) Schmidtlein, a Democrat of Missouri, was nominated to the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) by President Barack Obama on July 15, 2013; renominated on January 6, 2014; and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on March 6, 2014. She was sworn in as a member of the Commission on April 28, 2014, for the term expiring on December 16, 2021. She served as Chairman of the USITC from January 13, 2017, through June 16, 2018.

Commissioner Schmidtlein served as an expert consultant to the World Bank for the two years immediately prior to her appointment. In that role, she provided expertise on projects that sought to strengthen audit and accounting regulation and oversight in countries with emerging markets.

From 2005-2011, Commissioner Schmidtlein served as the founding Director of the office created to implement the international obligations of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB). The PCAOB is a regulatory agency created by Congress in 2002 to protect the interests of investors in U.S. capital markets and further the public interest in independent audit reports of U.S. public companies. Before becoming the Director of the PCAOB's Office of International Affairs, she served as Special Counsel to the Chairman of the PCAOB.

Commissioner Schmidtlein served in the General Counsel's office at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative from 1998 to 2003. In that role, she represented the United States as Head of Delegation and lead counsel in disputes before the World Trade Organization and provided legal counsel in connection with the negotiation of numerous international trade agreements.

Earlier in her career, Commissioner Schmidtlein was an Honors Program trial attorney in the Civil Division at the U.S. Department of Justice. She also was an adjunct professor for legal research and writing at the George Washington University's National Law Center. She began her career as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Howard F. Sachs, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri.

Commissioner Schmidtlein holds a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a juris doctor degree from the University of North Carolina School of Law. Originally from Carrollton, Missouri, she resides in Washington D.C. with her husband, John, and two children.



## Biography



### **AMY A. KARPEL**

Amy A. Karpel, a Democrat of Washington State, was nominated to the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) by President Donald J. Trump on February 27, 2018; renominated on January 16, 2019, and June 5, 2019; and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on August 1, 2019. She was sworn in as a member of the Commission on August 26, 2019, for a term expiring on June 16, 2023.

Prior to her Commission appointment, Commissioner Karpel spent more than 13 years at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), including as Chief Counsel for Negotiations, Legislation and Administrative Law from October 2012 to February 2017. While at USTR, Commissioner Karpel engaged in the negotiation and implementation of U.S. international trade agreements and served as lead counsel in disputes before the World Trade Organization.

She handled a range of international trade matters, including with respect to intellectual property, technical barriers to trade, labor and environmental protections, and information communications technology.

Prior to her USTR service, Commissioner Karpel was an associate attorney at the law firm of Stewart and Stewart in Washington, DC. In this role, she represented clients in antidumping and countervailing duty proceedings before the USITC and the Department of Commerce. She also litigated appeals before the Court of International Trade and the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Commissioner Karpel holds a Bachelor of Arts degree, cum laude, from the University of Washington and a Juris Doctor degree, cum laude, from the Washington College of Law at American University. Originally from Olympia, WA, she resides in Washington, DC, with her husband and daughter.