

## Contact

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## Top Skills

Civil Rights

Government

Homeland Security

# David Gersten

Immigration Detention Ombudsman (Acting) at U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

## Experience

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

17 years 3 months

Immigration Detention Ombudsman (Acting)

January 2021 - Present (2 years 8 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

I am honored to now serve as the Department's Acting Immigration Detention Ombudsman in the Office of the Immigration Detention Ombudsman (OIDO). OIDO is a new and independent DHS office mandated to investigate complaints of violations in immigration detention standards or misconduct occurring in detention facilities operated or contracted for services by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement or U.S. Customs and Border Protection. My vision as the temporary leader of the office is to quickly grow our capacity to conduct inspections, investigate complaints and resolve problems in cooperation with leadership from detention agencies and the Secretary of Homeland Security.

Director (acting), Office of Terrorism Prevention Partnerships

November 2017 - January 2021 (3 years 3 months)

Deputy Director, Office for Community Partnership, DHS

September 2015 - November 2017 (2 years 3 months)

Senior Executive Service. Deputy Director, Office for Community Partnership, DHS.

<http://www.dhs.gov/news/2015/09/28/statement-secretary-jeh-c-johnson-dhs%E2%80%99s-new-office-community-partnerships>

CVE Coordinator for DHS

July 2014 - September 2015 (1 year 3 months)

Taking a break from Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties to be the DHS Coordinator for Countering Violent Extremism (CVE).

Senior Executive - Director of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Programs Branch

June 2006 - June 2014 (8 years 1 month)

Deputy Officer for Programs and Compliance (Acting) - Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties  
December 2008 - October 2010 (1 year 11 months)  
Washington D.C. Metro Area

DHS Office for Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention  
Acting Director  
April 2019 - January 2021 (1 year 10 months)  
Washington D.C. Metro Area

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights  
Senior Program Manager - Customer Service  
February 2005 - June 2006 (1 year 5 months)

Center for Equal Opportunity / One Nation Indivisible  
Executive Director  
March 1998 - February 2005 (7 years)

AAC Associates, Inc.  
Recruitment Director / Human Resources Manager  
March 1997 - March 1998 (1 year 1 month)  
Tysons Corner, VA

The Leadership Institute  
Director of Education  
January 1994 - March 1997 (3 years 3 months)  
Arlington, VA

Santa Fe Express  
Vice President - Part Owner  
November 1992 - January 1994 (1 year 3 months)  
Gaithersburg, MD

Helen Bentley Re-Elect Campaign  
Campaign Coordinator  
December 1991 - November 1992 (1 year)  
Timonium, MD

Mid-Atlantic Martial Arts  
Instructor  
November 1990 - August 1991 (10 months)

Rockville, MD

Campaign for Maryland's Future

Executive Director

June 1989 - November 1990 (1 year 6 months)

Bethesda, MD

Alan Keyes for U.S. Senate

Special Project Director

June 1988 - December 1988 (7 months)

Silver Spring, MD

Linda Chavez for U.S. Senate

Assistant Field Director

December 1985 - December 1986 (1 year 1 month)

Silver Spring, MD

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## Education

University of Maryland College Park

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Political Science and Government · (1986 - 1991)

United States Marine Corps Officer Candidate School

· (1991 - 1991)

Center for Homeland Defense and Security, Naval Postgraduate School

Executive Leaders Program · (2008 - 2008)