

Laura I. Fernandez
Acting Suspension and Debarment Official
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Laura Fernandez currently serves as the Acting Suspension and Debarment (S&D) Official for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). She joined the agency in 2010 and has served as the S&D Hearing Official and the Grants Competition Disputes Decision Official. Ms. Fernandez exercises the EPA's authority to suspend and/or debar individuals and entities for waste, fraud, abuse, poor performance, environmental noncompliance or other misconduct.

Prior to her current position, Ms. Fernandez was with the Defense Logistics Agency as an Associate General Counsel for Business Integrity and with the U.S. Air Force as an Associate General Counsel for Contractor Responsibility. Earlier in her Federal career, Ms. Fernandez also taught law at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Ms. Fernandez is a recognized S&D expert in the Federal Government and teaches the subject at both the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (since 2006), the IG Criminal Investigator Academy, and the Audit, Inspection, & Evaluation Academy. Her expertise has also been sought to develop and review S&D-related curriculum by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, the IG Criminal Investigator Academy, and CIGIE's Audit, Inspection, & Evaluation Academy.

Between 2005 and the present, Ms. Fernandez has participated on the Interagency S&D Committee and the American Bar Association's Debarment and Suspension Committee. And, between 2005 and 2010, she was a member of the DOD Procurement Fraud Working Group.

Ms. Fernandez received a Master of Laws in Natural Resources, Environmental Law, and Policy from the University of Denver's School of Law in 2002 and a Juris Doctor from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1992.