COALITION FOR IMMIGRATION SECURITY

Name	Former Executive Branch Title(s)	Current Affiliations	Phone Number
Victor X. Cerda	* Acting Director, Detention and Removal, Immigration and Customs Enforcement * Acting Chief Counsel, Immigration and Customs Enforcement	* Partner, Tew Cardenas	202-904-2066
Richard A. Falkenrath	* Deputy Homeland Security Advisor, Homeland Security Council *Director for Proliferation Strategy, National Security Council	* Managing Director, Civitas Group * Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution	202.530.0765
Pancho Kinney	* Director of Plans & Policy, White House Office of Homeland Security * Deputy Director of International Affairs, DHS	* Vice President, HNTB Federal Services Corporation	703-824-5100
Jason Klitenic	* Deputy General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security	* Attorney, McKenna Long & Aldridge	202-496-7233
James A. Loy	* Deputy Secretary, Department of Homeland Security * Administrator, Transportation Security Administration * Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard	* Senior Counselor, Cohen Group	202-689-7900
Michael J. Petrucelli	* Acting Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services * Deputy Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services	* Director, Government Relations, Gridpoint, Inc.	202-903-2113
Seth M. M. Stodder	* Director of Policy and Planning, U.S. Customs and Border Protection	*Senior Counsel, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld	310-229-1000
C. Stewart Verdery, Jr.	* Assistant Secretary for Border and Transportation Security, Department of Homeland Security	* Principal, Mehlman Vogel Castagnetti, Inc. * Adjunct Fellow, Center for Strategic and International Studies	202-585-0244
Joseph D. Whitley	* General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security * Acting Associate Attorney General * U.S. Attorney, Middle and Northern Districts of Georgia	* Partner, Alston & Bird	202-756-3189

Victor X. Cerda
Partner, Tew Cardenas

Former Acting Director, Detention and Removal, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security

Former Acting Chief Counsel, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security

Victor X. Cerda is a partner of the firm and focuses his practice on global and federal government affairs, with an emphasis on immigration law and border security policy.

Under the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Mr. Cerda served as Counsel to the Assistant Secretary of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). As Counsel, Mr. Cerda provided policy and operational oversight over a myriad of critical ICE mission areas, to include detention and removal issues, critical infrastructure protection/worksite enforcement, customs investigations, the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), and high-profile immigration removal cases, including national security cases. In addition, he represented ICE in high-level departmental, interagency, and Congressional discussions on immigration policy. As Counsel, he testified on multiple occasions before the Congress on the SEVIS program and homeland security immigration enforcement issues. Additionally, he has conducted numerous media publication interviews on immigration and homeland security matters including the New York Times, the Washington Post, and USA Today, and has done live and taped television interviews including CNN, MSNBC, FOX, and NBC National News.

Mr. Cerda also served as the acting Director of the Office of Detention and Removal Operations (DRO) and Principal Legal Advisor for ICE. As Acting Director of DRO, he managed a detention system that processed over 200,000 individuals and removed a historical record 150,000 individuals. Additionally, he oversaw ICE's national fugitive operations mission, Criminal Alien Program, and detention bed centralization plan. Mr. Cerda directed the work of approximately 3,500 employees, including over 2,600 sworn law enforcement officers. As the Acting Principal Legal Advisor for ICE, he managed 600 attorneys nationwide and assisted in the development of national legal positions on customs and immigration matters.

In 1995, Mr. Cerda began his federal government career representing the Government in hundreds of immigration removal hearings. On September 11, 2001, Mr. Cerda was appointed Counsel and Acting Chief of Staff for the INS and played a critical role in implementing post 9/11 measures. He advised the Attorney General, Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner on immigration policy and operations and served as liaison with the White House, Department of Justice components, and other cabinet agencies.

Mr. Cerda, a native of Chicago, Illinois, is a graduate of Brown University. He received his Juris Doctorate degree from DePaul University. On December 2, 2004, Mr. Cerda was one of 13 DHS employees awarded the Secretary's Award for Exemplary Service at DHS' First Annual Secretary's Awards Ceremony. This award is the second highest award given to DHS employees and was issued in recognition of Mr. Cerda's accomplishments while assuming various key leadership roles in the initial years of DHS.

Richard A. Falkenrath
Managing Director, Civitas Group

Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution

Former Deputy Homeland Security Advisor, White House Homeland Security Council

Former Director for Proliferation Strategy, White House National Security Council

Richard A. Falkenrath is an expert on national security, homeland security and counterterrorism and a former senior advisor to President George W. Bush. Dr. Falkenrath served as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Homeland Security Advisor. Previously, he was Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Policy and Plans within the Office of Homeland Security. He was one of the architects of the Department of Homeland Security and the principal author of the National Strategy for Homeland Security. Prior to September 11, 2001, he was Director for Proliferation Strategy on the National Security Council staff. Before entering government, he was an Assistant Professor of Public Policy at Harvard University from 1998-2003 and Executive Director of the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs from 1995-1998.

Dr. Falkenrath holds a Ph.D. from King's College London and is a graduate of Occidental College.

Francis X. "Pancho" Kinney
Director of Strategic Planning, HNTB Federal Services Corporation

Former Director of Plans & Policy, White House Office of Homeland Security

Former Deputy Director of International Affairs, Department of Homeland Security

Homeland Security and international affairs expert Francis (Pancho) Kinney most recently served as the deputy director of international affairs for the Department of Homeland Security, reporting directly to Secretary Tom Ridge. Previously, he served at the White House Office of Homeland Security, where he developed and implemented the U.S.-Mexico “smart border” accord and was part of the team that wrote the national strategy on Homeland Security. A retired Army officer, he was also the director of strategic planning at the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Jason Klitenic

Partner, McKenna Long & Aldridge

Former Deputy General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security

Jason Klitenic focuses his practice on government enforcement, corporate compliance and homeland security matters. He divides his time between McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP's Atlanta and Washington, DC offices.

Prior to joining the firm, Jason served from 2003-2005 as the Deputy General Counsel of the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the agency's second-ranking legal officer. In this role, he was responsible for advising the Secretary and other senior leadership on legal issues arising throughout DHS, including those relating to immigration, customs enforcement, environmental compliance, international agreements, CFIUS reviews, complex civil litigation, the SAFETY Act, transportation security, labor and employment, public health, incident management, government contracts, infrastructure protection and intelligence sharing. In addition, Jason worked closely with his counterparts at the White House, Departments of Justice, State, Treasury, Defense, as well as other agencies, to coordinate counterterrorism and federal law enforcement initiatives. In 2005 he was appointed acting General Counsel of DHS and served as the chief legal officer of the 1,500 lawyer agency.

From 2002-2003 Jason was Deputy Associate Attorney General of the United States Department of Justice. There he oversaw matters in the Antitrust Division, Civil Division, Civil Rights Division, Environment and Natural Resources Division and other DOJ components, including matters regarding Civil False Claims Act litigation, corporate fraud, environmental enforcement, terrorism, healthcare fraud and immigration. While at the Justice Department, he also coordinated international trade policy, served as a member of the administration's Trade Policy Review Group and participated in the negotiations of the US-Singapore, US-Chile and US-Australia Free Trade Agreements.

Prior to his federal service, Jason was a partner in a national law firm, where he represented clients in criminal and civil government enforcement actions, including grand jury investigations, criminal prosecutions, Civil False Claims Act litigation and corporate compliance matters.

Admiral James M. Loy
Senior Counselor, The Cohen Group

Former Deputy Secretary, Department of Homeland Security
Former Administrator, Transportation Security Administration
Former Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard

In 2005, Admiral James Loy completed a 45-year career in public service, retiring as the first Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security. In this capacity, he was involved in all aspects of consolidating 22 separate agencies into one unified Cabinet department as well as managing the day-to-day activities of the agency.

Prior to the establishment of the Department of Homeland Security in 2002, Admiral Loy served in the Department of Transportation as Deputy Under Secretary for Security and Chief Operating Officer of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and later as Under Secretary for Security. In these roles, he served as the first administrator of the newly created TSA, which is responsible for protecting the Nation's transportation systems to ensure freedom of movement for people and commerce.

Admiral Loy retired from the U.S. Coast Guard in 2002, having served as its Commandant since May 1998. As head of the 90,000 person organization, he restored readiness through workforce development and modernized the Coast Guard’s fleet of ships and aircraft.

Prior to his service as Commandant, Admiral Loy served as the Coast Guard Chief of Staff from 1996 to 1998, during which time he redesigned the headquarters management structure and overhauled the Coast Guard planning and budgeting process to focus more sharply on performance and results. From 1994 to 1996, he was Commander of the Coast Guard's Atlantic Area, supervising U.S. forces during the mass Haitian and Cuban migrations of 1994, and leading Coast Guard forces participating in Operation Restore Democracy.

A career seagoing officer, Admiral Loy has served tours aboard six Coast Guard cutters, including command of a patrol boat in combat during the Vietnam War and command of major cutters in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

His military commendations and civilian honors are numerous, including the Department of Transportation Distinguished Service Medal; four Coast Guard Distinguished Service Medals; the Defense Superior Service Medal; the Bronze Star with Combat "V"; the Combat Action Ribbon; the Naval Order of the United States’ Distinguished Sea Service Award, the Seaman’s Church Institute Silver Bell Award, the Navy League prestigious Admiral Arleigh Burke Leadership Award, the Intrepid Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award, and many other distinctions. Admiral Loy graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1964 and holds Master's degrees from Wesleyan University and the University of Rhode Island.

Admiral Loy is a native of Altoona, Pennsylvania.

Michael J. Petrucelli

Director of Government Relations, Gridpoint, Inc.

Former Acting Director and Deputy Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security

Mr. Petrucelli joins GridPoint from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), where he served as the Acting Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services after previously working for two years as Deputy Director. Prior to holding positions within DHS, Mr. Petrucelli was Senior Vice President for Operations and Chief of Staff of the Export-Import Bank of the United States. He has also worked on economic and business issues at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in both the Office of Commissioner Furchtgott-Roth and the Satellite & Radiocommunication Division of the FCC's International Bureau. "Mr. Petrucelli's work will prove invaluable to meeting the needs of government clients as well as helping customers understand and utilize government-sponsored renewable energy programs," said Peter L. Corsell, President and CEO of GridPoint. "He will also be instrumental in our research and development efforts with federal agencies to create a smarter grid."

Mr. Petrucelli has extensive experience promoting U.S.-Asia trade relations, serving as Executive Director of the U.S.-Thailand Business Council, a trade association which promotes trade between the two countries, and as Director for Thailand, Burma and Financial Services at the U.S.-ASEAN Business Council. As a U.S. State Department Foreign Service Officer from 1992 to 1996, Mr. Petrucelli was assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand, the Bureau of Intelligence & Research in Washington, D.C., and the U.S. Consulate General, Netherlands Antilles.

Mr. Petrucelli holds a master's degree in business administration from Goizueta Business School, Emory University, with concentrations in leadership and international business and also studied international business in the MBA program at Nijenrode University in The Netherlands. Mr. Petrucelli also holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Trinity College in Hartford, CT.

Seth M.M. Stodder

Senior Counsel, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

Former Director of Policy and Planning, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security

Seth M.M. Stodder is Senior Counsel at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, and specializes in national/homeland security policy, immigration, supply chain security, and customs law and policy issues, as well as appellate and constitutional litigation. Prior to joining Akin Gump, Mr. Stodder served in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as Director of Policy and Planning for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Counselor / Senior Policy Advisor to Commissioner Robert C. Bonner. In that role, Mr. Stodder helped create and implement such key post-9/11 homeland security initiatives as the Container Security Initiative (CSI), the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT), the Arizona Border Control Initiative, the National Border Patrol Strategy, and other efforts to secure the borders, seaports, and airports of the United States, as well as to secure and facilitate the international movement of people and commerce. Mr. Stodder is a Senior Associate with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), and a Senior Fellow with the George Washington University Homeland Security Policy Institute. Mr. Stodder served on the CSIS-Heritage Foundation task force that wrote *DHS 2.0: Rethinking the Department of Homeland Security*, which substantially influenced DHS Secretary Chertoff's reorganization of DHS through his "Second Stage Review." Mr. Stodder is also a frequent writer and commentator on homeland security, immigration, and border security issues, has published articles in various publications. Most recently, he published a piece in the *San Diego Union Tribune* on the necessary interrelationship between the President's proposed temporary worker program and border security, entitled "Securing the Border." Mr. Stodder has also presented congressional testimony on border security. Mr. Stodder is a 1991 graduate of Haverford College and a 1995 graduate of the University of Southern California Law School.

C. Stewart Verdery, Jr.
Principal, Mehlman, Vogel, Castagnetti, Inc.

Adjunct Fellow, Center for Strategic and International Studies

Former Assistant Secretary for Border and Transportation Security Policy, Department of Homeland Security

Stewart joined MVC in March of 2005 following over a decade of high-level positions in the Executive Branch, the Congress, and the private sector. Stewart has extensive experience delivering public policy results to clients and the public in a wide range of fields including homeland security and law enforcement, technology and telecommunications, intellectual property, election law and legal reform.

Prior to joining MVC, Stewart served as Assistant Secretary for Homeland Security, following his confirmation by the U.S. Senate in 2003. Stewart led efforts by the Department of Homeland Security to develop and implement policies related to: immigration, visas and travel facilitation; cargo security and international trade; transportation security; and counter-narcotics and other law enforcement priorities. Stewart worked extensively with foreign governments, and appeared frequently as a witness in hearings before numerous Congressional committees and as a public speaker on topics related to homeland security, travel facilitation, and international trade issues. Stewart chaired official government committees related to international trade and tourism and served on the President's Advisory Committee to Protect Americans' Civil Liberties. Among the major DHS policy initiatives Stewart spearheaded were:

● Border Security. Responsible for policy development for US-VISIT entry-exit program for foreign visitors.

● Aviation Security. Negotiated international data-sharing agreement with the European Union.

● Cargo Security. Supervised DHS strategy for national cargo security policy.

● Immigration and Visa Policy. Responsible for development of U.S. immigration enforcement and visa policy.

Stewart continues to appear before Congress and as a public speaker as a homeland security expert.

Prior to his service at DHS, Stewart served as General Counsel to Sen. Don Nickles (R-OK), the Assistant Senate Majority Leader, from 1998 until 2002. Stewart played a major role on a wide range of policy issues including crime and law enforcement, commerce, judicial nominations, constitutional law, campaign finance, and telecommunications. Stewart also handled lead staff duties for the creation and management of the Senate Republican High Tech Task Force, the Republican leadership's outreach arm to the technology community.

Stewart also served as counsel to Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT) on the Judiciary Committee's crime unit in 1998 and, while at the Committee on Rules and Administration from 1996-1998 working for Chairman John Warner (R-VA), investigated the contested Louisiana Senate election.

In addition to his government service, Stewart was the Senior Legislative Counsel for Vivendi Universal Entertainment, focusing on telecommunications and intellectual property issues. He was also an associate at the Washington office of the law firm Baker & Hostetler, concentrating on antitrust and litigation.

Joe D. Whitley
Partner, Alston & Bird, L.L.P.

Former General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security

Former Acting Associate Attorney General, Department of Justice

Former United States Attorney, Middle and Northern Districts of Georgia, Department of Justice

Subsequent to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, in 2002 Congress enacted the Homeland Security Act bringing together 22 government agencies. Alston & Bird partner Joe Whitley was appointed by the President as the first General Counsel to the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the highest ranking legal official in the department. He held that position for two years before his departure and return to private practice. Previously he had led Alston & Bird's white-collar and government investigations practice.

During his tenure with DHS, Joe advised Secretary Tom Ridge and Secretary Michael Chertoff on legal issues including some of the following: immigration, customs enforcement, environmental compliance, international agreements, Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), complex civil litigation, the Support Anti-terrorism by Fostering Effective Technologies (SAFETY) Act, transportation security, labor and employment, government contracts, incident management, public health, infrastructure protection and intelligence sharing. He worked closely with his counterparts at the White House, Departments of Justice, State, Treasury, Defense and other agencies to coordinate counterterrorism and federal law enforcement initiatives.

At DHS he oversaw approximately 1,500 lawyers and 400 support staff from numerous agencies, including the Secret Service, the Coast Guard, Border and Transportation Security, the Transportation Security Administration, Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection, and Emergency Preparedness and Response (FEMA).

As the first person to hold the position of General Counsel with DHS, Joe has dealt with virtually every aspect of the law touching on homeland security. This experience allows him to conceptualize and to then achieve solutions for clients within a wide variety of areas. Together with diverse Alston & Bird legal teams he will counsel major corporations on public policy and legislative issues such as: disaster recovery and forward-looking mitigation strategies; cyber-security and critical infrastructure protection; immigration; customs and trade compliance; issues related to the USA Patriot Act as they affect banking and financial services firms, together with the insurance industry; the myriad of laws and regulations affecting all segments of the transportation industry; vulnerability assessments for members of the energy sector to include the broad spectrum of environmental regulations; and enforcement actions and criminal prosecutions, as well as civil litigation.

Joe previously had an extensive career in the Department of Justice, serving as the Acting Associate Attorney General, the third-ranking position in the Department of Justice, in the George H.W. Bush administration. He was appointed by Presidents Reagan and Bush, respectively, to serve as U.S. Attorney in the Middle and Northern Federal Districts of Georgia. At the time of his appointment he was one of the youngest persons ever to be appointed U.S. Attorney and the only person to ever serve as a Senate-confirmed U.S. Attorney for two separate jurisdictions. Throughout his career Joe served under five United States Attorneys General.

Joe received his J.D. and his undergraduate degrees from the University of Georgia.