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Systems Speaker Series on IT Acquisition

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Speaker Bios

Laura Stanton is the Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Information Technology Category (ITC), in GSA's Federal Acquisition Service (FAS). The FAS provides buying platforms and acquisition services to Federal, DoD, State, and Local governments for a broad range of items from office supplies and motor vehicles to information technology and telecommunications products and services. As an organization within FAS, ITC provides access to a wide range of commercial and custom IT products, services, and solutions. As Assistant Commissioner, Laura manages the largest fee-for-service IT procurement and services operation in the US government. Laura leads a highly-skilled and diverse workforce that manages more than 6,000 contracts, providing access to relevant and timely IT and telecommunications products, services, and solutions to defense and civilian agencies, as well as to state, local, and tribal governments. ITC facilitates more than \$32 billion in annual government spending and has provided nearly \$2 billion in savings to its customers. Before rising to lead ITC, Laura served as its Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Category Management, where she oversaw a portfolio of acquisition solutions including the Government-wide Acquisition Contracts (GWACs) Alliant 2, VETS 2, and 8(a) STARS II. In addition, her portfolio also included the Enterprise Infrastructure Solutions (EIS) and the USAccess shared services programs. Laura's guidance and oversight of the category teams helped ITC play a critical role in the Administration's IT modernization efforts to drive a more efficient and effective government for the American people. Laura came to ITC from GSA's Office of Enterprise Strategy Management. As the Assistant Commissioner, Laura directed FAS's strategic business planning, performance management, category management, and Acquisition Gateway adoption. She played an integral role in creating and executing a FAS strategic vision that aims to establish itself as the Government Acquisition Marketplace. She also coordinated with the Category Management Leadership Council and the Office of the Federal Procurement Policy to implement category management

government-wide. Laura was named a recipient of the 2015 Federal 100 Awards, presented to government, industry, and academic leaders who have played pivotal roles affecting how the federal government acquires, develops, and manages IT. Laura received her BA from Smith College and an MPP from Georgetown University. Her thesis on broadband adoption was published by the IEEE, the world's largest professional association for the advancement of technology.

Bill Zielinski has served as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the City of Dallas since June 2020. Previously, Zielinski was the Assistant Commissioner for ITC in GSA's FAS. Before that, Zielinski provided oversight of the federal government's IT capital planning and investment control process for the Federal CIO. Additionally, he has served as the CIO for the Social Security Administration (SSA) between 2013 and 2015, where he led a staff of approximately 3,400 IT Specialists and managed an annual total budget of more than \$1.5 billion. Prior to being the CIO, Zielinski served as the Regional Commissioner for SSA's San Francisco Region. Zielinski received a BS from Washington State University.