

Melissa D. Rider, CACM, CPCM, Fellow

Acting Deputy Director, Army Contracting Agency

Melissa D. Rider is the Acting Deputy Director of the Army Contracting Agency. The ACA's mission is to provide base operations and common-use information technology contracting support to virtually every Army MACOM and field operating agency, worldwide. Teaming with the Installation Management Agency and the Network Enterprise Technology Command, the ACA is revolutionizing the ways in which support is provided to warfighters in the field, to our soldiers' families at home, and to the installations from which Army power is projected. and has proponency for Army-wide services, contingency contracting, standard procurement system, and contingency contracting policy. . In addition, Ms Rider is the competition advocate for ACA.

Her previous assignments on the Office, Secretary of Defense Staff include—

Senior procurement analyst assigned to the Acquisition Workforce and Career Management Directorate in the office of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy. She was the Executive Secretary of the Functional IPT for Contracting, working with Defense Acquisition University and the focal point for outreach and communications for new acquisition initiatives.

Senior procurement analyst assigned to the Electronic Business Directorate in the Office of the Director, Defense Procurement, where she handled preaward issues such as Federal Business Opportunities, Purchase Card, Global Communication Grid, and Knowledge Management policies.

Senior procurement analyst assigned to the Defense Acquisition Regulation Council staff where she was the case manager for contract placement, utilities, contract reporting, Federal supply schedule, utilities, and ethics issues.

She has a BA in History and a BA in Economics from California State University, Northridge, and an MBA from Troy State University. She earned certificates in Contracting from California State University, Northridge in May 1985 and from the Air Force Institute of Technology in 1986.

Ms. Rider has also completed Government training, including the Department of Defense Senior Executive Leadership Course, Air War College (seminar), and Air Command and Staff College (seminar). She is in the current cadre for the Defense Leadership and Management Program. She is a member of the Air Force and DoD acquisition corps and is Level III certified in contracting. She is a National Contract Management Association Fellow, a Certified Associate Contracts Manager, and a Certified Professional Contracts Manager. She was selected as Outstanding Fellow in July 2001, and was awarded the Berger award for outstanding chapter leadership in Dec 2001.

Ms. Rider has participated in numerous reinvention activities. She was Team Leader of the FAR Part 15 Rewrite, Contract Award implementation team for the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994 Contract Award and Defense Unique FASA Implementation Teams in 1994 and 1995. She was a member of the DoD Electronic Commerce/Electronic Data Interchange in Contracting Process Action Team in 1993. She was detailed to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy from January-April, 1994, working as a member of the past performance team, assisting federal procurement executive to understand how to use past performance as a major source selection criterion. She was detailed to the DoD Electronic Commerce in Contracting Office from April-July, 1994 where she compiled a vendor handbook: "Using Electronic Commerce in Acquisition with the Department of Defense," assisted with education issued, and co-authored a white paper on a proposed automated past performance information system.

Past assignments before moving to the Washington, D.C. area include: Contracting Officer, Directorate of Control Systems Contracts, Space and Missile Systems Center, Los Angeles AFB, CA; Contracting Officer and Contracts Specialist, Advanced Strategic Missile Systems Directorate, Ballistic Missile Office, Norton AFB, CA; Contracts Specialist, Research and Development Contracts Division supporting the Air Force Rocket Propulsion Laboratory, Edwards AFB, CA; and Contracts Specialist supporting the Air Force Flight Test Center, Edwards AFB, CA (including base contracting supply, services and construction, specialized contracting, pricing, and contract administration).