

Robert G. Salesses

Performing the Duties of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense & Global Security

Robert Salesses began Performing the Duties of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Global Security on January 20, 2021.

Mr. Salesses currently serves as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense Integration and DSCA. As the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense Integration and Defense Support of Civil Authorities, Mr. Salesses is responsible for the



development of national homeland defense and security policy. He oversees the implementation of homeland defense and defense support of civil authorities' policy and plans and programs, ensuring the objectives addressing the emerging security challenges faced by the nation are achieved. Working closely with Federal, State, and local leadership, law enforcement, public health, and emergency management, he oversees DoD's response to national emergency operations in support of civil authorities.

Mr. Salesses is a retired United States Marine Corps Officer. His career included global planning and execution of numerous national, significant regional focused projects and contingencies to include: the withdrawal of critical nuclear stockpiles from former Soviet States; the development of multinational counter narcotics policies with Central and South America; and the liberation of Kuwait during the Gulf War, where he was awarded the

Bronze Star. Mr. Salesses's military career culminated in his assignment to the Joint Staff where he worked global contingency missions.

Mr. Salesses began his Federal civilian service career shortly after September 11, 2001, serving as the Deputy Special Assistant for the Homeland Security Task Force. During this period, Mr. Salesses supervised strategic planning, military operational support to civil authorities, and the emergency preparedness activities of the Department of Defense. He was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in 2005. He was awarded the Presidential Rank Award at the rank of Meritorious Executive for his decisive leadership and keen program management skills, his contributions to the National Response Plan, and the National Strategy for Homeland Security.

Mr. Salesses graduated from Rhode Island College, with a Bachelor of Arts in Management and Economics. He received his Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College.