



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

January 2016



Robert Stephenson

Director, Office of Business and Program Integration
Farm Service Agency
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

Robert Stephenson is the Agency's Director for the Office of Business and Program Integration for the Farm Service Agency. He also serves as the Secretary for Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) which funds most of the USDA commodity, export, and some of conservation programs.

As director, Mr. Stephenson provides leadership and oversight for key Agency-wide programs and areas including appeals, annual and strategic planning, audits, cooperative agreements, enterprise risk management, investigations, litigation, operations review and analysis, and performance reporting.

From 1991 through 2014, Mr. Stephenson served as Deputy Director then later served as the Director of the FSA's Conservation and Environmental Programs Division (CEPD). He managed key agency programs and areas including the Conservation Reserve Program, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, Emergency Conservation Program, Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program, Biomass Crop Assistance Program, and hazardous waste activities of the agency and CCC.

Mr. Stephenson previously served as Deputy Director of the Southwest Area, Staff Assistant in the Midwest Area, hearing officer with the Agency's Appeals Staff, and County Executive Director of the Decatur County office in Indiana.

During the 2014 Farm Bill debate, he was detailed to the U.S. House of Representatives where he served on the Committee on Agriculture and worked on the Conservation, Credit, Research, and Energy Titles.

In 2015, he received USDA's Abraham Lincoln Honor Award and in 1997, 2000, and 2003, he received USDA Honor Awards for Excellence. He is a 2000 graduate of the Federal Executive Institute's Leadership for a Democratic Society Program and received the Vice President's Hammer Award in 1999.

Stephenson currently owns the family farm where he was raised. After graduating from the Indiana University School of Business, he returned to his family's farm until he joined the Department of Agriculture in 1984.