

Biography



Richard Jefferson
Director, Office of External Affairs
Farm Service Agency
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

Richard Jefferson is the director of the Office of External Affairs for the Farm Service Agency (FSA). He is responsible for overseeing the daily operations of FSA's Executive Secretariat, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Public Affairs, Communications, and Legislative Liaison offices, as well as supervising FSA's production of Web site content and other informational materials. He also assists the administrator in communicating the importance and benefits of FSA programs and services to producers and landowners across the country.

Mr. Jefferson served from 2004 to 2006 as Deputy Director of FSA's Office of External Affairs. Before joining FSA in 2004, the Illinois native planned and executed start-up external affairs/media relations programs for two non-profit law firms. Between 1994 and 1998, Mr. Jefferson served as public relations manager for the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and as legislative liaison with Virginia's secretary of natural resources. He served in media relations positions with two colleges and worked early in his career for two newspapers as a reporter, photographer and page designer.

Mr. Jefferson holds a bachelor's degree in English literature from Nyack College as well as master's degrees in public policy and communication from Regent University. Mr. Jefferson resides in Northern Virginia with his family.