

Thomas Chittum
Assistant Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives



Tom was appointed Assistant Director of Field Operations in October 2019, and is responsible for ATF's investigative, law enforcement, and regulatory field operations nationwide. He was previously Deputy Assistant Director, Field Operations – Western Region, and oversaw the Dallas, Houston, Denver, Phoenix, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle Field Divisions. He was the Special Agent in Charge of the Washington Field Division from October 2017 to January 2019. In that position, he oversaw ATF's law enforcement and regulatory operations in the District of Columbia, Commonwealth of Virginia, and eastern panhandle of West Virginia.

Tom's previous supervisory assignments include Chief, Special Operations Division; Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Seattle Field Division; Special Agent in Charge, Internal Affairs Division; Chief of Staff, Office of Professional Responsibility and Security Operations; Chief, Frontline Branch; and Resident Agent in Charge, Las Vegas Field Office.

Tom's career in law enforcement began in his home state of West Virginia in 1997 as a special agent with the Internal Revenue Service's Criminal Investigations Division. He joined ATF in the Miami Field Division in 1999. He transferred to the Louisville Field Division, London (Kentucky) Satellite Office in 2002 and worked there until 2008. He was a member of the Enhanced Undercover Program from 2006 to 2008. From 2005 to 2012, he regularly testified as an expert on the interstate nexus of firearms and how firearms facilitate the illegal drug trade.

Tom has a BA in Criminal Justice from Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia; an MS in Criminal Justice from Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky; and a JD from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas. He is an attorney, licensed in Virginia, West Virginia, and Kentucky. He lives with his wife and three children in Virginia.

Melissa W. Nelson
State Attorney, Florida's 4th Judicial Circuit



Melissa Nelson took office as the State Attorney for Florida's Fourth Judicial Circuit in January 2017. There, she leads 300 plus attorneys, staff, and investigators in their pursuit of justice.

In 1997, Nelson started her career as an Assistant State Attorney and for the next 12 years prosecuted cases ranging from misdemeanors to capital homicides. From 2009-2016, she worked at the international law firm of McGuireWoods.

Since taking office, Nelson has implemented many smart justice initiatives and spearheaded modern criminal justice reforms. She established Florida's first Conviction Integrity Review unit, developed a driver's license restoration program, convened the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee aimed at reducing juvenile recidivism, and engaged the office in an academic research study focused on making data driven decisions. Each of these accomplishments reinforce her pledge to the citizens of Clay, Duval, and Nassau counties.

Nelson sits on various boards, both nationally and locally, including ATF's National Crime Gun Intelligence Governing Board, Florida's Cold Case Advisory Commission, Columbia University's Executive Session on the Future of Justice Policy, the Florida Supreme Court's Steering Committee on Problem-Solving Courts, and Jacksonville's Sulzbacher Center. She is also a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Nelson earned both her undergraduate and law degrees with honors from the University of Florida. She and her husband, Jason, live in Jacksonville where they raise their three children

Lieutenant Colonel Paul W. Neudigate
Assistant Police Chief, Cincinnati Police Department



Assistant Chief Neudigate is a 29-year veteran of the Cincinnati Police Department (CPD) which is comprised of 1,050 sworn officers and serves a residential population of 300,000. The tristate region of Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana which borders Cincinnati encompasses 2.2 million inhabitants with many of these individuals visiting or working in the City of Cincinnati.

Assistant Chief Neudigate currently serves as the Patrol Bureau Commander where he oversees 800 sworn personnel plus professional staff assigned to six patrol districts and various special operations functions, to include Canine, Civil Disturbance, Crime Analysis, Gang, SWAT and Traffic units. During a previous assignment as the commander of the Special Investigations Section, he partnered with agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) to spearhead a new gun violence reduction initiative for the CPD, which evolved into a regional Crime Gun Intelligence (CGI) concept. The addition of CGI as part of the citywide violence reduction initiative, the Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV), has resulted in a 26% reduction in total shooting victimization since its implementation in 2016.

Assistant Chief Neudigate holds a Bachelor's degree in Justice Administration from the University of Louisville and a Master's in Criminal Justice from the University of Cincinnati. He is a graduate of the following executive leadership schools: Police Executive Research Forum's Senior Management Institute for Police (SMIP), the Southern Police Institute (SPI) Administrative Officers' Course, the Certified Law Enforcement Executive program (CLEE), the Police Executive Leadership College (PELC), the FBI's National Executive Institute (NEI), and the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) Police Executive Leadership Institute (PELI). He also serves on the ATF's National Crime Gun Intelligence Governing Board, the MCCA's Forensic Science Committee, and the IACP's Private Sector Liaison Committee. He has earned numerous commendations during his career, to include the Cincinnati Police Department's Medal of Valor.

Zachary Terwilliger
U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia



G. Zachary Terwilliger is the 62nd United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia. As U.S. Attorney, he is the chief federal law enforcement officer in the Eastern District of Virginia. Mr. Terwilliger oversees the investigation and litigation of all criminal and civil cases brought on behalf of the United States in the Eastern District of Virginia. He supervises an office of approximately 160 Assistant U.S. Attorneys and 140 support personnel, who handle a high volume of critical cases in national security, terrorism, organized crime, narcotics, fraud and public corruption, immigration, cybercrime, as well as both affirmative and defensive civil cases where the United States is a party.

Before being appointed to the role of U.S. Attorney on May 25, 2018, Mr. Terwilliger served as Assistant Deputy Attorney General and Chief of Staff in the Office of the Deputy Attorney General at the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. In that role, Mr. Terwilliger was a member of the Department's senior leadership team and was responsible for overseeing the Department's Criminal Division and management of the cadre of attorneys and support staff at the nucleus of the Justice Department within the office of the Deputy Attorney General.

Mr. Terwilliger served first as a Special Assistant United States Attorney and then Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of Maryland from 2008 to 2017. In this role, his prosecutions focused on organized crime, human trafficking, and fraud. While at the U.S. Attorney's Office, the U.S. Attorney selected Mr. Terwilliger to serve as his sole counsel where Mr. Terwilliger was responsible for assisting the U.S. Attorney in all aspects of management of the office as well as serving as the Office's sole spokesperson. Prior to formally joining the office in 2008, Mr. Terwilliger was both an intern in the United States Attorney's Office as well as a summer law clerk following his first year of law school.

In addition to his service with the Department of Justice, Mr. Terwilliger also served as counsel to Senate Judiciary Chairman Charles Grassley where he focused on issues relating to criminal law, elder justice, human trafficking, and the Bill of Rights.

Mr. Terwilliger began his legal career as a law clerk for the Honorable K. Michael Moore, Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

Mr. Terwilliger received his B.A. degree from the University of Virginia. He obtained his J.D. from the William & Mary School of Law where he graduated with highest honors and amongst the top ten in his class. At William & Mary, he served as a member of the William & Mary Law Review, Moot Court team, and as the Criminal Law teaching assistant.

Mr. Terwilliger is a twenty-five year resident of the Eastern District of Virginia.