



FEMA

Barry West: Chief Information Officer

Barry West was appointed FEMA's Chief Information Officer (CIO) in October 2003. In this position, Mr. West manages and operates FEMA's information technology and telecommunications systems, and provides information technology and telecommunications services to FEMA, the Department of Homeland Security, and other federal, state and local agencies when required.

Prior to joining FEMA, Mr. West was the CIO of the National Weather Service. As the CIO, he had overall responsibility for information technology policy, procedures and guidelines. He was also responsible for computer security, enterprise architecture, the information technology operating and strategic plan, the enterprise network and the telecommunications operations center.

Previously, Mr. West served as the Deputy Director for the Office of Electronic Government at the U.S. General Services Administration, where he was the technical lead on the FirstGov.gov web portal. He was also chairperson of the Federal Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Business Working Group and spearheaded the first annual government-wide PKI conference for government and industry. Earlier in his career, Mr. West served as Associate Director for Production Services at the National Technical Information Service and as a systems manager at the U.S. Bureau of the Census, where he was a key player in the 1990 Decennial Census. Mr. West also served as a weather specialist in the U.S. Air Force, where he was named Weather Specialist of the Year, worked for Tab Books, Inc, where he led an effort to convert the company from a manual-based operation to a completely automated system.

A native of Smithburg, Md., Mr. West has a bachelor of science degree in Information Systems from Northern Michigan University, a master of science administration degree from Central Michigan University and an executive master of science in information technology degree from the University of Maryland. Mr. West has completed the Chief Information Officers Executive program at the University of Maryland and is president of the American Council for Technology. He also is an adjunct assistant professor in the graduate school at the University of Maryland University College.

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