



Ms. Michelle Van Cleave
Former National Counterintelligence Executive

Michelle Van Cleave is a nationally recognized authority on counterintelligence, homeland defense policy and the security disciplines. Over the past three decades, she has served in senior government positions for three U.S. Presidents and three Congressional Committees with responsibilities spanning intelligence, national defense, homeland security, and science and technology policy. A lawyer and consultant in private life, she is currently a Senior Fellow at the Center for Cyber and Homeland Security at George Washington University, and a principal with the Jack Kemp Foundation, helping to establish and manage programs to develop, engage and recognize exceptional leaders.

Ms. Van Cleave was the first person to serve as the statutory head of U.S. counterintelligence. Appointed *National Counterintelligence Executive* by President George W. Bush in 2003, she was responsible for leading and integrating the counterintelligence activities of the FBI, CIA, the military services and other federal organizations. Upon leaving office, she joined the faculty of the National Defense University, where she served until 2011, teaching a core course in homeland security.

Her prior government positions include: Special Assistant to the Undersecretary for Policy and Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Army for homeland defense, Department of Defense (2001-2003); Staff Director, Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism and Government Information (1997-1999); General Counsel and Assistant Director for National Security, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (1987-1993); Minority Counsel, House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology (1989) and Associate staff, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations and Legislative Assistant for Defense and Foreign Policy to Congressman Jack Kemp and the House Republican Conference (1981-1986).

In private life, Ms. Van Cleave was President and founder of the government consulting firm *National Security Concepts, Inc*; Of Counsel to the Washington law firm of *Feith & Zell, P.C.*, and an associate with the Los Angeles law firm of *Horvitz and Greines*. She is a member of the bar associations of the State of California and the District of Columbia.

Ms. Van Cleave holds *M.A.* and *B.A.* degrees in International Relations from the University of Southern California (USC), and a *J.D.* from the USC School of Law. She sits on the Boards of Directors of the Jamestown Foundation and the Association of Former Intelligence Officers. She is an honorary lifetime member of the Professional OPSEC Society of America and a 2003 recipient of the Medal for Outstanding Public Service from the Secretary of Defense.

Ms. Van Cleave has not testified to the Commission.