




**U.S. Department  
of Transportation**

Office of the Secretary  
of Transportation

**MAR 21 2013**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**ACTION MEMORANDUM TO THE SECRETARY**

From: Brodi L. Fontenot   
Assistant Secretary for Administration  
X62332

Prepared by: Nancy A. Mowry  
Director, Departmental Office of Human Resource Management  
X64088

Subject: Nominations for 2013 Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership

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**ACTION REQUIRED**

Request your approval of the attached nominations recommending five individuals for the Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership.

**SUMMARY**

Michael P. Huerta, Administrator for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), has recommended **Catherine M. "Kate" Lang, Deputy Associate Administrator for Airports** for this award. Kate truly exemplifies the dedication to public service and to training the next generation of Federal managers espoused by Roger W. Jones. Her Federal career has been dedicated to ensuring public safety, improving critical infrastructure, fostering international partnerships, and training the next generation of public servants. Known as someone who is willing to take risks to improve government, her leadership skills, vision, and dedication to government service make her an exemplary manager and an inspiration to those who work for and with her.

The Administrator also recommended **Claudio Manno, Assistant Administrator for Security and Hazardous Materials Safety** for this award. Claudio's primary mission is to safeguard the public. His exemplary record speaks for itself. He achieves results and creates a positive workplace for employees while doing so. The Security and Hazardous Materials Safety organization is a cornerstone of the FAA's ability to provide the safest, most efficient aerospace system in the world. His career is marked by professionalism, excellence and integrity, and his reputation as a security expert spans the globe.

David T. Matsuda, Administrator for Maritime Administration (MARAD), has recommended **Keith Washington, Deputy Director, Departmental Office of Human Resource Management in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation and the Interim Associate Administrator for Administration in the Maritime Administration** for this award.

Keith has demonstrated an exceptional ability to lead organizations and has been instrumental in ensuring that the United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA) fulfills its mission and reaches its strategic goals. In addition, Keith helped transform many of the programmatic functions at MARAD and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) by improving processes and leveraging resources. Keith exemplifies effective management, which has resulted in numerous organizational accomplishments as well as a more highly skilled staff at the USMMA, MARAD, and DOT.

David L. Strickland, Administrator for National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), has recommended **Daniel C. Smith, Senior Associate Administrator for Vehicle Safety** for this award. Dan's superior leadership resulted in numerous accomplishments that have and will in the future result in safer roads for the citizens of this country. He is dedicated to developing others to be successful managers and executives.

Cynthia L. Quarterman, Administrator for Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), has recommended **Scott A. Poyer, Associate Administrator/Chief Financial Officer** for this award. Scott has been an integral part of the agency and provides steadfast support to various program offices. Scott continues to prove his dedication and commitment to the Agency while being very humble of his accomplishments.

He has provided guidance on all aspects of management, procurement, general support, and information technology that in turn has greatly benefited the Agency. Scott is well respected by his peers and maintains a professional approach when dealing with complex and sensitive issues. He works closely with the executive team to keep them informed of budget and financial concerns and provides alternative methods to ensure proper risk management guidelines are in place. He balances strategic and tactical duties with finesse.

**BACKGROUND**

The American University, School of Public Affairs in Washington, D.C., is soliciting nominations for the 2013 Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership. Now in its 35<sup>th</sup> year, the Roger W. Jones Award is given annually to two Federal career executives (members of the Senior Executive Service) who have demonstrated superior leadership in achieving their Agency's mission and developing other managers. Since 1978, more than 60 Federal career executives have received the Roger W. Jones Award.

**RECOMMENDATION**

I recommend that you approve the attached nominations.

Attachments

The Secretary

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*March 26, 2013*



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Nominations for 2013 Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership

NOMINEE:  **Catherine M. "Kate" Lang**  
**Deputy Associate Administrator for Airports in the**  
**Federal Aviation Administration**


APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINEE:  **Claudio Manno**  
**Assistant Administrator for Security and Hazardous Materials Safety**  
**in the Federal Aviation Administration**

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINEE:  **Keith Washington**  
**Deputy Director, Departmental Office of Human Resource Management**  
**in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation and Interim Associate**  
**Administrator for Administration in the Maritime Administration**

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINEE:  **Daniel C. Smith**  
**Senior Associate Administrator for Vehicle Safety in the**  
**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINEE: **Scott A. Poyer**  
**Associate Administrator/Chief Financial Officer in the**  
**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration**

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Ray LaHood (Signature)  
Secretary

(Date)

March 26  
2013