

Global Leaders Confronting Global Risk

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Team

New team, long-term colleagues

Our principals have worked closely together for years, as leaders of the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the National Security Agency and the CIA. We've seen each other under pressure — the kind of pressure most people would never want to see, with thousands of lives or even the whole nation's security at stake, with no time to spare and usually with limited information. We came through it together. And the United States came out stronger. We reorganized the country's disaster response system, so we'll never again see anything like the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. We vastly improved interagency communications, so federal and local agencies won't be in the dark about who's doing what. We developed a whole new approach to border security and counterterrorism, and since 9/11 not a single person has died from a terrorist attack within our borders. We came to know each other under the most trying circumstances. We came to trust each other with our lives. We work incredibly well – together – under pressure. And once you get to know us, you'll understand how valuable we can be to securing the future of your organization.

- Team
- Board of Advisors



The Honorable Jayson P. Ahern

Principal – Jayson P. Ahern has an impressive 33 years of federal service to both the U.S. Customs Service and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. He has served as Acting Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and was responsible for securing, managing and controlling our Nation's borders.



The Honorable Charles E. Allen

At Chertoff Group, Mr. Allen will bring to bear his extensive experience in intelligence program management, analysis and production; intelligence collection management; system acquisition and warning intelligence.

During his more than 40 years at the CIA, Mr. Allen became as much a legend as a respected senior official. He earned a reputation for plain speaking, even when his opinions differed from those of senior officials.

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Joseph Bernabucci

Joseph Bernabucci joined the Chertoff Group in 2009. Previously, Mr. Bernabucci served as a Defense Fellow and Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), focusing on business transformation and budget and appropriations affairs. In this role, he analyzed budget and appropriations issues for the Secretary of Defense, and prepared senior officials for Congressional hearings related to the defense budget.

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Larry Castro

Mr. Castro advises Chertoff Group on information assurance and cyber security, Federal, state and local government information sharing, intelligence support for crisis and special event management as well as general intelligence community matters.



Brandon Cato

As an associate within The Chertoff Group, Mr. Cato uses his solid experience in corporate financial advisory services to help research and provide strategic information on both buy and sell side assignments.

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Michael Chertoff

As Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security from 2005 to 2009, Mr. Chertoff led the country in blocking would-be terrorists from crossing our borders or implementing their plans if they were already in the country. At Chertoff Group, Mr. Chertoff provides high-level strategic counsel to corporate and government leaders on a broad range of security issues, from risk identification and prevention to preparedness, response and recovery. "Risk management has become the CEO's concern," he says. "We help our clients develop comprehensive strategies to manage risk without building barriers that get in the way of carrying on their business."

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The Honorable Jay M. Cohen

Innovative problem solving and science and technology have always been among Jay M. Cohen's strong points: Early in his naval career he mastered Nuclear Power Training and later commanded a nuclear submarine. He provides scientific and technological expertise to clients of Chertoff Group – expertise that goes far beyond typical recommendations for application of both proven technology and cutting edge solutions.



Debbie Eng

Debbie Eng is Deputy Chief Operating Officer for The Chertoff Group. She joined the firm in July 2009 after three years of service at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, where she helped bring best business practices to this newly formed Cabinet Department and one of the most complex government mergers in U.S. history.

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The Honorable Dr. Richard Falkenrath

Prior to joining the New York City Police Department, Dr. Falkenrath served as the Stephen and Barbara Friedman Senior Fellow at The Brookings Institution, a private nonprofit organization devoted to independent research and innovative policy solutions in Washington, D.C. His research and analysis of policy subjects focused primarily on organizational restructuring and globalization. At that time, he was also an analyst with the Cable News Network (CNN).

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Cindy Farkus

Ms. Farkus brings a tremendous amount of national security experience to The Chertoff Group, specificlly in counterterrorism with an emphasis on transportation security. Previously, Ms. Farkus served in several key positions including DHS Acting Assistant Secretary for International Affairs as well as Assistant Administrator for the Office of Global Strategies and Assistant Administrator for the Office of Intelligence at TSA. During her time at DHS, Ms. Farkus ensured that strategic international relationships stayed on track during the early stages of the presidential transition, worked proactively with international partners and those involved in securing overseas transportation operations to influence global security standards and enforce regulations throughout the global transportation network, and oversaw day-to-day intelligence activities providing key insights to directly influence TSA operations around the globe.



Nathaniel T. G. Fogg

Mr. Fogg comes to the Chertoff Group after two and a half years serving in a senior operating role at FEMA where he was instrumental in restructuring the agency and improving its response and recovery capabilities in the wake of the federal response to Hurricane Katrina. He was significantly involved in the development and execution of successful evacuation and sheltering plans for Louisiana and Texas during Hurricanes Gustav and lke in 2008, and numerous other effective responses to natural disasters and emergencies around the country.

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General Michael V. Hayden

As Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, General Hayden was responsible for overseeing the collection of information concerning the plans, intentions and capabilities of America's adversaries; producing timely analysis for decision makers; and conducting covert operations to thwart terrorists and other enemies of the US. At Chertoff Group, General Hayden will use his broad geographic and political knowledge to brief clients on intelligence matters worldwide – including developments in cybersecurity – that may affect their businesses.

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Lauren Lotko

As a Senior Associate, Lauren Lotko brings an incredible desire to help clients achieve their goals while also serving our nation's own interest in improving public safety and security. Prior to joining The Chertoff Group, Ms. Lotko worked as an equity research associate at BayStreet Research providing quantitatively driven analysis on the wireless communications and video games sectors in order to assist clients in their investment making decisions. Since 2008, Ms. Lotko has served in the United States Navy as a Reserve Intelligence Officer where she continues to serve the Commander of the Pacific Fleet, providing maritime domain awareness and exercise support through her reserve duties.



Graham Love

Mr. Love works with Chertoff Group clients to provide strategic advice on mergers, acquisitions and private equity investments, science and technology research, development, testing and evaluation, technology transfer across government and private sector

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William P. Marshall

Mr. Marshall brings to the Chertoff Group a broad base of expertise in intelligence and cyber-related matters after nearly 35 years of service at the National Security Agency/Central Security Service (NSA/CSS), where he held a variety of senior leadership, management, and analysis positions in support of the U.S. Intelligence Community and Department of Defense.

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Katy Montgomery

Katy Montgomery is a senior public affairs advisor focused on creating thoughtful and strategic communications plans to help clients be prepared and navigate through both anticipated challenges and unpredictable events. During her career, she has served as a strategic advisor and spokesperson for senior government officials at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, The White House, and U.S. Department of Education.



Lauren Ostendorf

At The Chertoff Group, Ms. Ostendorf utilizes her background in corporate finance and investment banking to provide strategic information to companies wishing to expand within the defense, aerospace and security industries and to help private capital groups evaluate investment opportunities within the sector.

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The Rt. Honorable Lord John Reid

Dr. John Reid has dedicated his career to public service serving as a Member of Parliament for 23 years, half of which were in service as a Government minister. He is often described as one of the most experienced Cabinet ministers in modern times having held more ministerial posts at the Cabinet level than any other politician in recent history.

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Nicolle Sciara Rippeon

Nicolle Sciara Rippeon joins The Chertoff Group from ABM LLC, an advisory services firm specializing in supporting the government's implementation of border security and immigration programs as well as technology modernization projects. She also worked with both large and small companies in developing and pursuing federal strategies in the homeland security market space.



The Honorable Jeffrey W. Runge, MD, FACEP

Dr. Runge has decades of clinical, research, leadership and administrative experience. In addition to seven years as the head of two government agencies with as many as 1000 employees and contractors under his direction, he brings nearly 30 years of experience as an emergency medicine physician. Until 2001 he practiced and taught in North Carolina's busiest emergency department and trauma center, while performing research in injury prevention, trauma care, and emergency service delivery.

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The Honorable Paul A. Schneider

At Chertoff Group, Mr. Schneider counsels clients on budgeting, procurement and overall management issues related to security programs. He also serves as a strategic consultant to the defense and aerospace industries. "Risk management always requires an investment – often a large one," he says. "Even amidst the vast uncertainties we have to deal with, we can help ensure that your investment delivers optimal returns."

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Dr. Gary M. Shiffman

Dr. Shiffman brings to the Chertoff Group a deep terrorism/counter-terrorism expertise married with successful P&L experience at a Fortune 200 corporation. A prominent economist, he is well known for his perceptive application of economic insights to business leadership, and national and homeland security.



Chad C. Sweet

At the Department of Homeland Security, Chad Sweet worked directly with Secretary Michael Chertoff to restructure and optimize the flow of information between the CIA, FBI and other members of the national security community and DHS. At Chertoff Group, Mr. Sweet utilizes his unique background in intelligence, homeland security and investment banking to provide M&A advice to companies wishing to expand within the defense, aerospace and security industries, and to help private capital groups evaluate investment opportunities within the sector.

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Sir David Veness

Sir David Veness served as Under-Secretary-General of the UN Department of Safety and Security from its creation in 2005 until June 2009. This role carries responsibility for UN operations globally. Prior to this appointment, he was Assistant Commissioner (Specialist Operations) New Scotland Yard from 1994-2005.

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Dr. J. Bennet Waters

Dr. Waters spent more than a decade in the private sector where he held strategic, financial and operations roles in early-stage organizations and turnaround situations. He brings to Chertoff Group a successful record of senior leadership experience in a variety of public, private and federal government settings. Dr. Waters specializes in developing and implementing entrepreneurial programs that balance the need to minimize risks with maintaining the flow of commerce.



Matthew Webster

At The Chertoff Group, Mr. Webster utilizes his background in investment banking and private equity to provide Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) advice to companies wishing to expand within the defense, aerospace and security industries and to help private capital groups evaluate investment opportunities within the sector.

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Richard Weiblinger

Richard Weiblinger brings a unique skill set and perspective to the Chertoff Group having served in the Legislative and Executive branches of the U.S. Government and in the private sector on a range of critical policy issues, including public health, bioterrorism preparedness, emerging homeland security technologies, and a strong understanding of the Federal budget and appropriations process during his career as a staffer in the U.S. Senate. At the Chertoff Group, Mr. Weiblinger works with a range of clients to provide his first-hand knowledge of trends and requirements in national and global security to better position the private sector to provide critical capabilities to enhance security both at home and abroad.

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Brian M. White

Mr. White provides strategic advice on mergers, acquisitions and private equity investments and focuses on global border and supply chain security, cyber security and international homeland security.

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Chertoff Group » What We Do What We Do

- Risk Management & Security Services
- Crisis Management
- M&A Advisory Services

We open up the opaque world of security to customers and investors alike



Experienced Risk Management and Security

Every day we analyze the unthinkable and help plan for the unspeakable. Most often, we find ways to help our clients prevent crises or minimize damage across the whole spectrum of security risks worldwide.

Sometimes we deal with events that cannot be predicted or prevented, or that involve our clients through no fault of their own—massive, widespread power outages, natural disasters or terrorist attacks.

To provide a full range of crisis response solutions, we have formed a strategic partnership with the experienced crisis management team at Burson-Marsteller, which has successfully helped clients overcome challenges ranging from plant explosions to product tampering.

Security sector M&A and investment advisory services

The same experience that enables us to serve a broad range of security and risk management clients gives us an unparalleled insight into growth opportunities across the industry.

For those within the industry seeking to expand through a merger or acquisition, or to divest assets, the Chertoff Group provides complete M&A and due diligence services based on years of experience in both investment banking and national security.

The Chertoff Group also offers investment counsel for private equity groups seeking to make investments in the sector. We can assist with unparalleled advice, capital or senior management expertise. So, whether you are a strategic industry player or a private equity firm partner, the Chertoff Group professionals stand ready to advise you and can potentially and do serve in selected executive positions or as board members for portfolio companies.

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