John D. Ryan

President, Chief Executive Officer National Center for Missing and Exploited Children



John Ryan was confirmed as president and CEO of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children® in Dec 2013. Ryan was previously elected CEO of NCMEC in June 2012 after serving more than 12 years on its board, most recently as chairman.

Since becoming president and CEO, Ryan has led a campaign to fight child sex trafficking in this country, which has shifted from the streets to the Internet, where children are openly advertised for sex on classified websites. In 2013, after the Jerry Sandusky scandal, Ryan spearheaded "Safe to Compete: Protecting Child Athletes from Sexual Abuse" a summit, cohosted by the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation, that brought together youth-sports organizations and issue experts to discuss child sexual abuse prevention. While at NCMEC, Ryan has also established a CEO Council and an Entertainment and Media Cabinet to raise awareness about missing and exploited children.

Before joining NCMEC, Ryan worked for 17 years with AOL Inc. as senior vice president and deputy general counsel. While at AOL Inc. Ryan led the Public Safety & Criminal Investigations Unit and served as a liaison with law enforcement coordinating investigations and prosecutions of criminal activities, including Internet crimes committed against children. Prior to joining AOL Inc. Ryan was the director of investigative affairs at AT&T Wireless in New York. He also worked for 14 years at the Office of the District Attorney in Bronx County, New York, where he served as an assistant district attorney and chief of major offenses.

A native of New York, Ryan holds a Juris Doctor from St. John's University School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts from Fordham University.