

Bio for Paul Francis

Current Position: Managing Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, U.S. Government Accountability Office

Education: Bachelor's degree in Accounting (University of Scranton)
Masters Degree in Public Administration (George Washington University)
Senior Executive Fellow, Kennedy School of Government

Work Experience: Mr. Francis has been with GAO since June 1975, with most of his work experience being in the area of major weapon acquisitions. He has been a member of the Senior Executive Service since 2002. Since March 2009, he has led GAO's Acquisition and Sourcing Management team, which has responsibility for assessing the acquisition of weapon systems, services, NASA projects, and Coast Guard systems, as well as the execution of efforts to manage Federal contracting, acquisition workforce, and protection of critical technologies. He has previously conducted or been involved with reviews of many individual weapon programs, including Army helicopters, Future Combat Systems, unmanned aerial vehicles, tactical communications, shipbuilding programs, and missile defense. He has also conducted or been involved with cross-cutting reviews, several of which involved benchmarking with leading commercial firms and successful Department of Defense programs. These included acquisition culture, transition to production, technology maturation, requirements setting, supplier relationships, integrated product teams, requirements setting, training, test and evaluation, earned value management, milestone authorization, and affordability. He has also done work in the areas of wartime medical requirements and detection of landmines and unexploded ordnance. He has testified before congressional committees numerous times. Mr. Francis spent one year with the House Science and Technology Committee early in his career.