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Dr. Dillingham is currently the Director of Civil Aviation Issues at the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) in Washington, D.C.—the investigative arm of the U.S. Congress. As such, he oversees all program evaluation and policy analysis related commercial and general aviation safety, airport and airline finance, the environment, air traffic control, airport development, and international aviation issues.

Dr. Dillingham is recognized as an expert on aviation issues, program evaluation, and policy analysis. He has appeared as an expert witness before numerous committees of the U.S. Congress. He also served on the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (The 9/11 Commission). Dr. Dillingham holds a Ph.D. and master's degree from the University of Chicago in Sociology, and a postdoctoral certificate in Evaluation Research from the University of California-Los Angeles.