



Office of Congressional Workplace Rights

Teresa M. James

Acting Executive Director

Teresa M. James was named Acting Executive Director of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights (OCWR) in January 2022.

In this capacity, Ms. James serves as chief operating officer for the OCWR, which was established to ensure the integrity of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (CAA). The OCWR provides a process to resolve alleged violations of the CAA; conducts training for members of Congress, employing offices, and employees on their workplace rights and responsibilities; conducts safety and health inspections; and ensures accessibility for members of the visiting public.

In addition, Ms. James has been serving the OCWR as Deputy Executive Director for the House of Representatives since June 2018. In this role she is responsible for the OCWR's legislative and public affairs and education programs on workplace rights, safety & health, and public accessibility mandated by the CAA.

Ms. James, who came to the Office in 1999, previously served as Director of the Administrative Dispute Resolution Program and was primarily responsible for the processing of all informal and formal claims concerning workplace rights afforded to legislative branch employees under the CAA.

Prior to coming to the Office, Ms. James worked in local government where she developed and promoted alternative dispute resolution programs to resolve regulatory and employment matters. Ms. James also previously practiced employment and general law in the private sector. She earned her law degree from Creighton University and her undergraduate degree in Political Science from Mount St. Mary's University.