



DEFENSE BUSINESS BOARD
FEBRUARY QUARTERLY MEETING

AGENDA

Amended from Federal Register Notice published on January 19, 2024

--- Day 1 ---

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024

Pentagon Library Conference Center (PLCC), Room M2

OPEN SESSION

- 9:00 – 9:05 AM Begin Open Session – Ms. Cara Allison Marshall, Designated Federal Officer (DFO)
- 9:05 – 9:10 AM Chair’s Welcome – Hon. Deborah James
- 9:10 – 10:10 AM Discussion on the Role of Private Industry and Business in the National Defense Industrial Strategy (NDIS) – Hon. Radha Iyengar Plumb, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment
- The NDIS provides the strategic vision to coordinate actions and emphasizes four long-term strategic priorities: building resilient supply chains, securing workforce readiness, enabling flexible acquisition, and promoting economic deterrence. The discussion will focus on how business leaders can best support the NDIS and ways to overcome the obstacles to implementation.*
- 10:10 – 10:15 AM Adjourn Open Session – Ms. Cara Allison Marshall, DFO

CLOSED SESSION

- 10:15 – 10:20 AM Begin Closed Session – Ms. Cara Allison Marshall, DFO
- 10:20 – 11:15 AM *Classified Discussion* on the DoD Audit and Incremental Progress – Hon. Michael McCord, Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer
- This session will include an overview of the latest DoD Audit, progress to date, and the path forward. Discussion will include current obstacles and recommended courses of action from the Board.*
- 11:15 AM – 1:30 PM Lunch Break
- 1:30 – 2:50 PM *Classified Discussion* on the State of the Workforce – Recruiting, Training, Retention, Obstacles, and Solutions – Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, CMSAF JoAnne Bass
- The conversation is expected to delve into the multifaceted aspects of managing a contemporary workforce; addressing challenges in recruiting talent in the current environment; implementing effective training programs; and devising retention strategies. Discussion will focus on identifying obstacles such as changing workforce expectations; skill gaps to address future needs per the National Security Strategy; and exploring innovative solutions to foster a resilient and high-performing workforce.*



DEFENSE BUSINESS BOARD FEBRUARY QUARTERLY MEETING

AGENDA --- Day 1, Continued --- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024

- 2:50 – 3:00 PM Break
- 3:00 – 3:45 PM *Classified Discussion* on DoD Industry Partnerships – Mr. Jedidiah P. Royal, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
- Mr. Royal will discuss his work with allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific region to obtain key capabilities for a future warfighter.*
- 3:45 – 4:00 PM Break
- 4:00 – 5:00 PM *Classified Discussion* on Current Operations, Crisis Action Planning, and Adaptive Decision Making in Dynamic Environments – Lt. Gen. Douglas A. Sims II, U.S. Army, Director of the Joint Staff
- This forum will explore the intersection of military operations and corporate crisis management, highlighting the parallels between the principles of current operations, crisis action planning, and adaptive decision-making in both contexts. Through this exploration, participants can gain valuable insights into proactive crisis management, strategic preparedness for “black swan” events, and the cultivation of an agile organizational culture capable of navigating complex and rapidly changing landscapes.*
- 5:00 – 5:15 PM Transition to the Air Force Mess – Ms. Cara Allison Marshall, DFO
- Air Force Mess Room 4D880**
- 5:15 – 5:20 PM Chair’s Remarks – Hon. Deborah James
- 5:20 – 5:25 PM Deputy Secretary Remarks – Hon. Kathleen Hicks
- 5:25 – 7:00 PM *Classified Update* from Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) – Dr. Stefanie Tompkins, Director of DARPA
- This discussion focuses on significant updates from DARPA in support of the National Security Strategy; how DARPA has a different remit from the DoD; and what best business practices could be imported to the rest of the DoD.*
- 7:00 – 7:05 PM Adjourn Closed Session – Ms. Cara Allison Marshall, DFO



DEFENSE BUSINESS BOARD FEBRUARY QUARTERLY MEETING

AGENDA --- Day 2 --- WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024

Pentagon Library Conference Center (PLCC), Room M2

CLOSED SESSION

- 9:20 – 9:25 AM Begin Closed Session – Ms. Cara Allison Marshall, DFO
- 9:25 – 9:30 AM Chair’s Welcome – Hon. Deborah James
- 9:30 – 10:15 AM *Classified Discussion* on the “Replicator” Initiative – Hon. Kathleen Hicks, Deputy Secretary of Defense

This discussion focuses on DoD's initiative on meeting critical warfighter needs at speed and scale. Ms. Aditi Kumar, Deputy Director for Strategy, Policy, and National Security Partnerships at Defense Innovation Unit and Ms. Joy Shanaberger, Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary of Defense will join Hon. Hicks for this discussion.
- 10:15 – 10:20 AM Adjourn Closed Session – Ms. Cara Allison Marshall, DFO

OPEN SESSION

- 10:20 – 10:25 AM Begin Open Session – Ms. Cara Allison Marshall, DFO
- 10:25 – 11:30 AM Discussion on Supply Chain Risk Management – Brig. Gen. Stephanie Howard, U.S. Army Reserve, Executive Director, Operational Contract Support, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment

This segment will focus on supply chain risk management in the context of strategic competition, including how DoD can access and share information while protecting intellectual property. The discussion will focus on the experience of business leaders in managing similar challenges within large companies and best practices for evaluating risks.
- 11:30 – 11:35 AM Adjourn Open Session – Ms. Cara Allison Marshall, DFO