

Kansas City Commodity Office

Steve Sanders, Director

The Office of the Director (OD) has the mission to manage the acquisition, handling, storage, transportation, and disposition of agricultural commodities in order to carry out Commodity Credit Corporation program commitments and to administer the United States Warehouse Act.

Deputy Directors and Divisions:

Patrick M. Dardis, Deputy Director
Head of Contracting Activity Designee (HCAD)

The HCAD for Commodity Operations is appointed by the Farm Service Agency Administrator to provide leadership and direction for KCCO Contracting officers and other members of the acquisition workforce. He establishes policies, procedures, and practices to supplement the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and Agriculture Acquisition Regulations (AGAR). He also appoints qualified employees as FAR warranted contracting officers for purchases of agricultural commodities and commodity-related services, for use in various domestic and international feeding programs.

Steven P. Miteff, Deputy Director

- **Domestic Procurement Division**

Patricia A. Jennings, Chief
816-926-6124

The Domestic Procurement Division (DPD) purchases dairy and processed commodities for domestic food distribution programs such as National School Lunch. DPD also purchases powdered milk, butter and cheese offered to Commodity Credit Corporation under the Milk Price Support Program, administers commodity purchase contracts for the Agricultural Marketing Service, and contracts for the warehousing and distribution of commodities for the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program.

- **International Procurement Division**

Vacant, Chief
816-926-6658

The International Procurement Division (IPD) purchases and delivers agricultural commodities to foreign countries under the P.L. 480 Title II and III Programs, Food for Progress Program, McGovern Dole Food For Education Program, and Section 416(b). These programs are administered by the Agency for International Development (USAID) and Foreign Agricultural Service. Food purchased for these programs are distributed through private voluntary agencies and the World Food Program. IPD also arranges for survey of cargo at destination ports and delivery locations for a number of non-governmental organizations.

- **Business Operations Support Division**

Khristy Baughman, Chief
816-926-6509

Business Operations Support Division (BOSD) is responsible for analysis and evaluation of Processed Commodity Inventory Management System (PCIMS), Grain Inventory Management System (GIMS), Cotton On-Line Processing System (COPS) applications, coordinating software and hardware needs for KCCO, user assistance for personal computer applications, coordinating with ITSD on software development, and assisting in the development of strategic plans for KCCO.

Bill Turbitt, Deputy Director

- **Commodity Management Division**

Jerry Cornell, Chief
816-926-6444

The Commodity Management Division (CMD) markets and manages the inventories of several commodities such as cotton, grain, rice, oilseeds, pulses, sugar, dairy products and peanuts owned by Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) and regularly analyzes the location, condition, and quantity of these stocks. CMD also administers the contracting and compliance for storage with warehouses under the terms of various storage agreements such as the Uniform Grain and Rice Storage Agreement (UGRSA), Cotton Storage Agreement (CSA), Peanut Storage Agreement (PSA), Sugar Storage Agreement (SSA), and Processed Commodities Storage Agreement (PCSA). In accordance with program objectives and authorized directives, determines and posts applicable Posted County Prices (PCPs), acquires, sells, exchanges or disposes of grain, oilseeds, cotton, pulses, rice, sugar, peanuts, and dairy products. Prepares and issues announcements for the sale of assigned commodities.

- **Contract Reconciliation Division**

Greg Borchert, Chief
816-926-6525

Administers the Extra Long Staple Cotton agreements. Authorizes payment for domestic transportation, Export Enhancement and Dairy Export Incentive Programs, Sunflower-seed and Cottonseed Oil Assistance Programs, and surveys of cargo discharged in foreign countries. Assures compliance for the End-Use Certificate Program and financial compliance for various storage agreements as well as the United States Warehouse Act. Monitors the transportation of commodities shipped under CCC sponsored humanitarian programs and provides oversight of private voluntary organizations (PVO's) with respect to handling export commodities while in the PVO's care and custody. Pursues and adjudicates debt by and against CCC resulting from export and domestic transportation losses, and invoices for stevedore, warehouse, and vendor losses.

- **Warehouse License and Examination Division**

Tim Mehl, Chief
816-926-6843

Warehouse License and Examination Division (WLED) performs warehouse examinations in support of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Uniform Storage Agreements and the United States Warehouse Act (USWA). Such examinations ensure the integrity of agricultural commodities stored in approved/licensed facilities and that the facilities meet established approval standards. WLED also has the responsibility of administering the licensing of warehouses under the USWA, and the regulations thereunder. WLED assures compliance with the USWA.

Director, Kansas City Commodity Office

Steven L. Sanders



Steve Sanders joined FSA's Commodity Operations organization in August 2008 as the Director, Kansas City Commodity Office. In this capacity, he focuses on the acquisition, regulatory, and operational functions of the Commodity Operations organization.

Prior to being named the Director of the Kansas City Commodity Office, Mr. Sanders served five years as FSA's Director, Information Technology Services Division. Under his leadership, FSA justified its need for increased IT funding to modernize business practices and IT systems. He joined the Agency in 1984 as a Washington, D.C.-based program specialist charged to automate the acreage reporting business process. Since then, he has worked on numerous projects that apply innovations in information technology to business processes. He led the project team that deployed the Agency's first public-facing electronic government business process in 2002. Today, Mr. Sanders is a key executive sponsor on USDA's Web-based Supply Chain Management project focused on installing a new enterprise-class, commercial off-the-shelf business solution for domestic and international food acquisition and distribution.

Mr. Sanders is an engineering college graduate from Ohio State University, where he specialized in agricultural machinery design. He and his family currently reside in Kansas City, Missouri.

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**Deputy Director
Head of Contracting Activity Designee
Kansas City Commodity Office**

Patrick M. Dardis



Patrick Dardis joined Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Commodity Operations in June 2009 as Deputy Director, Kansas City Commodity Office (KCCO) and FSA's Head of Contracting Activity Designee for Commodity Operations.

Prior to joining the FSA/KCCO staff, Mr. Dardis was a manager in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region VII office, located in Kansas City, Missouri. During his 12-year tenure at FEMA, he served as a Branch Chief in the areas of Operations, Planning, Logistics, Administration, and Finance. He also deployed to several major disasters as Deputy Federal Coordinating Officer.

Patrick is also a commissioned officer in the US Army Reserve, currently holding the rank of Colonel. He has served in command and operational staff positions in Logistics, Comptroller, and Contracting; and has commanded at the Company, Battalion, and Installation levels. His overseas duty includes two tours in Operation Iraqi Freedom; serving in Iraq and Kuwait. He was awarded the Bronze Star, for his service as a Battalion Commander in the combat zone.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and an MBA degree from The University of Kansas. He also received a Master of Strategic Studies degree from the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

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**Deputy Director,
Kansas City Commodity Office**

Steven P. Miteff



Steve Miteff currently serves as Deputy Director, KCCO. His duties include overseeing the functional responsibilities of the Business Operations Support Division, Domestic Procurement Division, and the International Procurement Division.

Mr. Miteff performed his normal duties and served as the Acting Director, from April 1996 through February 1997, to oversee the office mission of managing the disposition of food commodities acquired under a variety of farm and food assistance programs administered by the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Prior to his move to Kansas City in January 1996, Mr. Miteff served as Chief, Contract Management Branch, Procurement and Donations Division, in Washington, D. C. His responsibilities included the development of program policies, commodity and packaging specifications, and contract terms and conditions for commodities procured by KCCO under domestic and foreign food assistance programs.

Mr. Miteff began his government career in 1980 as the FSA Packaging specialist. His primary responsibility was to provide the Deputy Administrator for Commodity Operations with recommendations on matters pertaining to the delivery of commodities acquired under government price support programs and commodities purchased under food assistance programs. These assistance programs include the National School Lunch Program domestically and the Food for Peace Program overseas.

He was born in Lansing, Michigan, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Packaging from Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, in 1979. Mr. Miteff has served as National President of the National Institute of Packaging Handling, and Logistics Engineers (NIPHLE) and now serves that organization in an advisory capacity. In addition to his extensive involvement in domestic programs, he has evaluated food distribution systems in Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Haiti, India, Ivory Coast, Senegal, and Sri Lanka.

Mr. Miteff has received numerous awards during his career including a number of FSA Administrator's Awards for enhancing the integrity of food assistance and commodity price support programs, NIPHLE's John C. Wilford Memorial Award for extraordinary contributions to the field of packaging, and USDA's William A. Jump Award for noteworthy service in public administration.

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**Deputy Director,
Kansas City Commodity Office**

Bill Turbitt



Bill Turbitt serves as Deputy Director, KCCO. His duties include overseeing the functional responsibilities of the Commodity Management Division, Contract Reconciliation Division, and Warehouse License and Examination Division.

Mr. Turbitt began his government career in 1980 with the Federal Grain Inspection Service in Houston, Texas. He transferred to FSA in Kansas City in 1982 and worked as a marketing specialist dealing with CCC inventories and warehouse storage agreements. In 1992 he became branch chief of the Dairy Procurement and Inventory Branch. His primary responsibilities were to supervise the operations of the Milk Price Support Program and to oversee the procurement and delivery of dairy products under food assistance programs, including the National School Lunch Program.

He was born in Warwick, Rhode Island, and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Plant and Soil Science and a Master of Science degree in Plant Pathology from the University of Rhode Island. He also received a Master of Business Administration degree, with a concentration in Finance, from the University of Missouri - Kansas City.

Mr. Turbitt is married and has two children, a girl and a boy.

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