

## **KAY R. KUHLMAN**

Kay R. Kuhlman is currently Deputy Senior Commercial Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa, Canada. In this capacity she coordinates the U.S. Commercial Service (CS) export promotion and administrative programs in Ottawa and the other five CS locations in Canada. She comes to the position following a Detail to the E-Business Development and Professional Development Units at the Department of Commerce in Washington, where she focused on development, implementation and application of CS work-related technologies. Prior to that, she served in Germany as Minister-Counselor for Commercial Affairs, U.S. Embassy Berlin (1998-2002) and Commercial Counselor in Bonn (1996-1998).

Prior to her German assignment, Ms. Kuhlman was Commercial Counselor in Switzerland (1992-1996) and in Romania (1988-1992), where she experienced the overthrow of communist dictatorship and participated in that country's transformation to a free market economy. She received the U.S. Department of Commerce Gold Medal in 1990 for her role in advancing U.S. commercial interests in Romania. She has subsequently received a second Gold Medal (1997) for her contribution to the FCS "Showcase Europe" initiative; a Silver Medal (1995) for the creation of the America Center of Geneva, a public-private "reinventing government" initiative, and a group Silver Medal (1998) for assistance provided to Embassy Nairobi bombing victims.

Ms. Kuhlman began her career with the Department of Commerce in 1974, as an International Trade Specialist in Washington. Following the creation of the Commercial Service in 1980, she served as Commercial Officer in Munich, U.S. Department of Commerce representative to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris, and Special Assistant to the U.S. Ambassador in Brussels.

Born in Germany of American parents working for the U.S. Department of the Army, Ms. Kuhlman holds degrees from the University of Illinois and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Boston, Massachusetts. She is married to Brian M. Flora, a State Department Foreign Service Officer serving as Minister-Counselor for Political Affairs, American Embassy Ottawa. They have twin sons.