

Rachel Featherstone

Team Leader, Security Assistance for Africa and the Western Hemisphere, Office of Security Assistance, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C.

CURRENT ASSIGNMENT: Ms. Featherstone is currently serving as the Team Leader for the Security Assistance Team for Africa and the Western Hemisphere in the Office of Security Assistance, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs (PM), U.S. Department of State. The Security Assistance Team is responsible for managing more than \$6 billion a year in military assistance including the Foreign Military Financing (FMF), International Military Education and Training (IMET) and the Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) account. Ms. Featherstone is directly responsible for all FMF, IMET and PKO to Africa and the Western Hemisphere and the overall PKO and IMET accounts. Her team is also responsible for coordinating the Department's position on concurring on Department of Defense authorities such as section 333 Train and Equip for Africa and the Western Hemisphere.

PAST EXPERIENCE: Ms. Featherstone began her federal service career at the State Department in June 2002. She has worked in PM her entire career at State and has held her current position since August 2018. Prior to this current assignment, she was the Security Assistance Team Leader for Africa and the Near East for three and a half years. Prior to that assignment, she directly managed FMF, IMET, and PKO to Africa for seven and a half years. Prior to that assignment, she managed the Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI) program for three and a half years.

EDUCATION: She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Virginia in 2002 and a Master of Arts in Security Studies from Georgetown University in 2007. She was a U.S. Department of State Powell Fellow from 2007-2008 and graduated from the Department of Defense Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP), Class of 2013.

Awards: She has received twelve Superior Honor Awards, four Meritorious Honor Awards, two Quality Step Increases, two Cash Awards, and three Extra Mile Awards.