



President Biden Appoints Scott R. Calisti to U.S. AbilityOne Commission

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 21, 2023 – President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., has appointed Scott R. Calisti to the [U.S. AbilityOne Commission](#) as the Air Force representative, effective July 19, 2023.

On June 16, 2023, the President had [announced](#) his intent to make the appointment.

“I am delighted to welcome Scott,” said Commission Chairperson Jeffrey A. Koses. “He is an exceptional addition to the Commission, bringing valuable experience and expertise to us at an important time.

“We see Scott’s appointment as a further commitment to the AbilityOne mission of employing people who are blind or have significant disabilities. This action brings the number of Commission members to 15 – the full complement authorized under the Javits-Wagner-O’Day Act.”

Calisti is the Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary (Contracting) for Headquarters U.S. Air Force at the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia. He assists the Deputy Assistant Secretary in carrying out responsibilities for all aspects of contracting related to the acquisition of weapon systems, logistics support, materiel, and services for the Department of the Air Force. In this role, he oversees the training, organizing, and equipping of a workforce of some 8,000 contracting professionals.

In his previous assignment, Calisti served as the Director for Contract Policy in the office of the Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, within the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment. In this capacity, he led the development of new, innovative acquisition policy. Also, he was appointed as the Office of the Secretary of Defense’s AbilityOne Representative (ABOR), supporting the Office of Management and Budget implementation of the ABOR program across all Federal agencies. He joined civil service in 2014 after completing over 26 years on active duty in multiple assignments including Headquarters Air Force, Joint Staff, and the completion of six command tours before retiring in September 2013.



Calisti earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Rutgers University and a Master of Administrative Management degree from Central Michigan University. He also earned a Master's degree in National Security and Resource Strategy from the National Defense University, Eisenhower School. Calisti has been a member of the Senior Executive Service since 2020.

About the U.S. AbilityOne Commission

The AbilityOne Program is administered by the U.S. AbilityOne Commission, the operating name of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled. The Commission is an independent Federal agency composed of 15 Presidential appointees: 11 represent Federal agencies, and four serve as private citizens who are knowledgeable about employment barriers facing people who are blind or have significant disabilities.

About the AbilityOne Program

The AbilityOne Program facilitates the use of government procurement to provide employment in the United States for people who are blind or have significant disabilities. More than 36,000 individuals, including more than 2,500 veterans, are employed nationwide at more than 440 nonprofit agencies from Maine to Guam. AbilityOne provided nearly \$4 billion in products and services to approximately 40 Federal government agencies in FY 2022.

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