

Claudia J. Postell, Esq (SES)



Ms. Claudia J. Postell, Esq. is the Associate Commissioner in the Office of Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity at the Social Security Administration (SSA) where she provides policy guidance and direction to more than 62,000 employees in the areas of equal employment opportunity (EEO) and civil rights. Her experience in EEO and civil rights expands 28 years, beginning as an unpaid intern at the Washington Field Office of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) during her third year of law school. She has been a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES) since 2009 and has established a distinguished career of service to our nation.

In her current position at SSA, Claudia provides overall leadership, direction, and guidance in ensuring the agency complies with anti-discrimination laws, regulations, policies, and procedures regarding EEO and civil rights. Prior to that, Ms. Postell served as Director, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, National Science Foundation (NSF). In that capacity, she served as the principal advisor to NSF's Director, Deputy Director, and senior executives on issues related to EEO, civil rights, and workforce diversity and inclusion.

Since becoming a member of the SES in August 2009, Ms. Postell has served as a role model for others. While at NSF, she sought to increase her knowledge of the SES hiring process to share with others and began participating on the Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) standing and virtual Qualifications Review Boards (QRBs), in which she has reviewed more than 60 SES candidate packages. Through her experiences on the QRB, she saw first-hand the need for more diversity among executives serving on these boards charged with evaluating and determining which candidates OPM accepts into the SES. Since then, she has continued to serve as an advocate to increase the number of African Americans in the SES through her words and actions.

In 2012, Ms. Postell co-wrote and taught a course on the Executive Core Qualifications with OPM's Senior Executive Service and Performance Management Office, which was first presented at the EEOC's Executive Leadership Conference. She has presented on SES topics at numerous forums designed to promote professional development and advancement of African Americans seeking to become SES. In each of her presentations, Ms. Postell shares candid and real-life experiences that have served as learning tools in her SES journey.

Ms. Postell is an attorney, and she has a certificate in Strategic Diversity and Inclusion Management from Georgetown University. She has also completed the Senior Managers in Government program at the Harvard Kennedy School and the Leadership for a Democratic Society course at the Federal Executive Institute.