

BIOGRAPHY



MARION C. BLAKEY President & Chief Executive Officer Aerospace Industries Association

Marion C. Blakey is president and chief executive officer of the Aerospace Industries Association. AIA is the most authoritative and influential voice of the aerospace and defense industry, representing approximately 340 of the industry's leading manufacturers. In her position Blakey has led the industry's fight against arbitrary and severe budget cuts to national security, civil space programs and Federal Aviation Administration operations mandated by the Budget Control Act of 2011. She has also played a leading role in promoting the export of civil and defense aerospace products, and supported the priorities of America's thousands of suppliers to aerospace and defense programs.

Ms. Blakey became the eighth full-time chief executive of the association in 2007. Prior to joining AIA, Blakey served a five-year term as administrator of the FAA. At FAA, Blakey regulated the nation's airways as well as operated the world's largest air traffic control system, managing 44,000 employees and a \$14 billion budget. During her tenure, the traveling public experienced one of the safest periods for air travel in the United States' history. And under her leadership, she launched NextGen – the shift to a 21st century satellite-based system that will modernize air transportation, reduce fuel consumption and decrease passenger and cargo delays.

From 2001 to 2002 Blakey served as chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board. At NTSB she led a number of accident investigations, improved the Board's accident reporting process and strengthened its advocacy and outreach programs to promote safer travel throughout all modes of transportation.

Including her service at the FAA and NTSB, Blakey has held six presidential appointments, four of which required Senate confirmation. From 1992 to 1993, Blakey served as administrator of the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. As the nation's leading highway safety official, she was charged with reducing deaths, injuries, and economic losses resulting from motor vehicle crashes. She has also held senior positions at the Department of Commerce, the Department of Education, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Department of Transportation and the White House. From 1993 to 2001, Blakey was the principal of Blakey & Associates, now Blakey & Agnew, a Washington, D.C. public affairs consulting firm with a particular focus on transportation issues and traffic safety.

Ms. Blakey is the Vice Chairman of the President's Export Council Subcommittee on Export Administration, and the Chairman of the National Center for the Advancement of Technology and National Institute for Aerospace Studies and Services. She also serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Noblis, a nonprofit science, technology and strategy organization, and is a member of Alaska Airlines Board of Directors and Chairman of their Safety Committee, the NASA Advisory Council and Chairman of the International Coordinating Council of Aerospace Industries Associations.

Born in Gadsden, Ala., Blakey received her bachelor's degree with honors in international studies from Mary Washington College of the University of Virginia. She also attended Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies for graduate work in Middle East Affairs. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, a fellow in the Royal Aeronautical Society and has received numerous honorary degrees and awards, including the National Aeronautic Association's 2011 Henderson Trophy for making "a significant and lasting contribution to the promotion and advancement of aviation and aerospace in the United States," Aviation Week & Space Technology's 2013 Laureate award for AIA's contributions to workforce development through STEM education activities, and the National Aeronautic Association's 2013 Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy, recognizing her "significant public service of enduring value to aviation in the United States."