

In September of 2009, Ms. Donna L. Cahill was appointed as the Chief Counsel of the United States Secret Service (Secret Service). The Chief Counsel is the primary legal advisor to the Director of the Secret Service and his staff, and is the executive level supervisor and manager for the Office of the Chief Counsel (OCC). The OCC provides in-house legal advice, services and representation for the Secret Service. The Secret Service is a federal law enforcement and protective agency operating under the provisions of title 18 of the United States Code, sections 3056 and 3056A. The Secret Service is tasked with the protection of the President and Vice President of the United States and their immediate families, other current and former high level federal government officials, visiting foreign heads of state, the White Complex, foreign embassies within the District of Columbia, and the coordination of security for significant nation events designated as National Special Security Events (NSSEs). The Secret Service has jurisdiction over investigation of crimes involving this nation's financial infrastructure including counterfeiting of currency, identity theft, and credit card fraud.

Ms. Cahill has extensive legal experience and supervises a group of attorneys involved in the varied legal practice areas common to the OCC, including Constitutional and civil torts, the laws surrounding access to classified information and classified programs, asset forfeiture, federal government ethics, procurement and appropriations law, federal personnel law, internal and external civil rights, government policy, regulation, legislation, and information access through the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act of 1974, and the civil and criminal discovery processes

Ms. Cahill began her career with the Secret Service as an attorney/advisor in 1984. She was promoted through the ranks in the OCC and in 2006 was selected as Deputy Chief Counsel, a Senior Executive Service level position. Ms. Cahill received her J.D. from Case Western Reserve Law School, and her undergraduate degree for the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester Massachusetts.