

Keynote Speakers



Congressman Mike Rogers

Republican - Alabama 3rd Congressional District

Congressman Mike Rogers is a fifth generation East Alabamian, growing up in Calhoun County, Alabama. Since being first elected in 2002, Congressman Rogers has been known for his tireless advocacy for the people and interests of Alabama's third Congressional District. He is an advocate for a strong national defense and is a senior member of the House Armed Services Committee. He serves as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Strategic forces dealing with missile defense and nuclear weapon issues to protect the United States and our key allies. Congressman Rogers also serves on the Armed Services Readiness Subcommittee which has jurisdiction over military readiness, maintenance, and logistics. He works tirelessly to ensure our warfighters have the very best equipment.



**Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Ships
Gloria Valdez**

**Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for
Research, Development and Acquisition**

As Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Ships, Ms. Gloria Valdez is responsible for the executive oversight of all naval shipbuilding programs, major ship conversions, and the maintenance, modernization, and disposal of in-service ships. She also provides the executive oversight of cost, schedule, and performance of all programs in her portfolio. Prior to her current assignment, Ms. Valdez has served as the executive director for the Program Executive Office (PEO) for submarines, director of the investment and development division with the Office of Budget in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Financial Management and Comptroller, and budget director for the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, deputy program manager for the Ohio-Class SSGN conversion program, and numerous positions in Naval Sea Systems Command and the Pentagon.