# POSITION DESCRIPTION

# chairman and commissioner, occupational safety and health review commission

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| **OVERVIEW** | |
| Senate Committee | Health, Education, Labor and Pensions |
| Agency Mission | To provide fair and timely adjudication of workplace safety and health disputes between the Department of Labor and employers |
| Position Overview | The chairman and commissioners of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission (OSHRC or Review Commission) play a vital role in encouraging safe and healthy workplaces for American workers through rendering decisions that arise from inspections conducted by a federal agency separate from the Review Commission, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.[[1]](#endnote-1) |
| Compensation | Chairman: Level III $165,300 (5 U.S.C. § 5314)  Commissioner: Level IV $155,500 (5 U.S.C. § 5315)[[2]](#endnote-2) |
| Position Reports to | OSHRC is an independent federal agency. A member of the commission may be removed by the president for inefficiency, neglect of duty or malfeasance in office. (29 U.S.C. § 661) |
| **RESPONSIBILITIES** | |
| Management Scope | In fiscal 2015, OSHRC had $12 million in budget outlays and 56 employees.[[3]](#endnote-3) |
| Primary Responsibilities | The Review Commission functions as a two-tiered administrative court, with established procedures for conducting hearings, receiving evidence and rendering decisions by its administrative law judges (ALJs) and discretionary review of ALJ decisions by a panel of commissioners.[[4]](#endnote-4) Commissioners:   * Review decisions reached by the ALJs[[5]](#endnote-5) * Provide administrative trial and appellate review, created to decide contests of citations or penalties resulting from OSHA inspections of American work places[[6]](#endnote-6) |
| Strategic Goals and Priorities | [Depends on the policy priorities of the administration] |
| **REQUIREMENTS AND COMPETENCIES** | |
| Requirements | Commission requirements:   * Composed of three members who shall be appointed by the president, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate * The president shall designate one of the members of the commission to serve as chairman * Members serve six-year terms (29 U.S.C. § 661)   Commissioner requirements:   * By reason of training, education or experience are qualified to carry out the functions of the commission (29 U.S.C. § 661) |
| Competencies | * Strong interpersonal and communication skills * Excellent judgement and integrity |
| **PAST APPOINTEES** | |
| Cynthia L. Attwood (2010 to 2017): Member, Administrative Review Board, Department of Labor; Associate Solicitor, Division of Occupational Safety and Health, Office of the Solicitor, Department of Labor; Associate Solicitor, Division of Mine Safety and Health, Office of the Solicitor, Department of Labor[[7]](#endnote-7) | |
| Heather L. MacDougall (2014 to 2017): Of Counsel, West Palm Beach, FL Office, Akerman LLP; Of Counsel, FordHarrison LLP; Counsel, Bridgestone Americas, Inc.[[8]](#endnote-8) | |
| Horace A. Thompson (2007 to 2013): Co-Chair, Labor and Employment Practice Group, Watkins Ludlam Winter & Stennis, P.A.; Founding Partner, McCalla, Thompson, Pyburn, Hymowitz & Shapiro, LLP; Attorney, Jones, Walker, Waechter, Poitevent, Carrére & Denégre LLP[[9]](#endnote-9) | |

1. http://www.oshrc.gov/about/how-oshrc.html [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-31, May 5, 2017), contains a provision that continues the freeze on the payable pay rates for certain senior political officials at 2013 levels during calendar year 2017. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. Leadership Directories: https://lo.bvdep.com/OrgDocument.asp?OrgId=-1&LDIBookId=19&LDIOrgId=155524&LDISecId=201&FromRecent=0&Save=1&Position=-1#O155524 [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. http://www.oshrc.gov/ [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. OPM [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
6. http://www.oshrc.gov/ [↑](#endnote-ref-6)
7. Leadership Directories: https://lo.bvdep.com/PeopleDocument.asp?PersonId=-1&LDIPeopleId=947403&Save=1 [↑](#endnote-ref-7)
8. Leadership Directories: https://lo.bvdep.com/PeopleDocument.asp?PersonId=-1&LDIPeopleId=1490942&Save=1 [↑](#endnote-ref-8)
9. Leadership Directories: https://lo.bvdep.com/PeopleDocument.asp?PersonId=-1&LDIPeopleId=622619&Save=1 [↑](#endnote-ref-9)