

**Journal of Commerce**  
**Port Commissioner Named To U.S. Committee On Trade**  
**Peta N. Richkus Appointed to Select Group That Will Make Recommendations on**  
**International Trade and Jobs**

Press Release

(BALTIMORE, MD) --- Maryland Port Administration (MPA) Commissioner Peta N. Richkus has been appointed to a four-year term as a member of the Intergovernmental Policy Advisory Committee on Trade by the Office the United States Trade Representative. The 29-member committee is comprised of public and private sector professionals from across the country. The committee's duties include advising, consulting with, and making recommendations to U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk and relevant Cabinet or sub-Cabinet officials concerning trade matters.

"This is another outstanding opportunity for an accomplished Maryland professional to display her talents and expertise for our great country," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "With her very diverse background, Peta Richkus will undoubtedly become a very valued member of this prestigious committee."

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative negotiates directly with foreign governments to create trade agreements, resolve disputes, and participates in global trade policy organizations. The Office was created in 1962 within the Executive Office of the President and is responsible for developing and coordinating U.S. international trade, commodity, and direct investment policy, and overseeing negotiations with other countries.

Appointed to the Maryland Port Commission by Governor O'Malley in 2008, Ms. Richkus helps to establish policies directed toward improving the competitive position of the Port of Baltimore within the international maritime industry.