

Privacy Panel March 13
Barbra Symonds
IBM Global Business Services'

Biography:

Barbra Symonds, CIPP/G

Associate Partner in Security, Privacy, Wireless and IT Governance

IBM Global Business Services' Public Sector as a Privacy Solution Lead

- Prior to joining IBM, she was a Senior Executive in the Federal Government with over 18 years experience leading enterprise-level business transformation, information technology (IT) modernization, and information protection and safeguarding programs for two of the largest civilian agencies in government. She was the first Privacy Director for the Department of Veterans Affairs and established the privacy program to ensure compliance with HIPAA as well as all laws and regulations pertaining to federal agencies.
- In her last position as the Director for Privacy and Information Protection for the Internal Revenue Service, she was responsible for the strategic direction of the program's privacy policy, outreach, operations, and assurance to ensure the IRS reputation maintains the public trust of the U.S. taxpayer for voluntary tax compliance.
- She established the IRS program for identity theft and incident management to establish agency-wide policies and procedures to implement a risk-based analysis of lost or stolen sensitive PII to determine the corporate response to potentially impacted individuals, including public notification and crisis communication strategies.
- She developed and managed the Department of Treasury business process transformation and IT program to implement a corporate solution for identity and access management via smart card technology for Treasury's 13 bureaus and 150,000 employee population.
- She has given multiple presentations to public and private sector organizations as a recognized Privacy leader in establishing and implementing a large-scale information protection strategy, including IBM's Center for Excellence in Government, the e-Gov Institute, and the Department of Homeland Security. She was interviewed by the Economist magazine in October 2006 as a thought leader for a study on how the federal government implements and addresses privacy risks.