

Everett Eissenstat
Assistant U.S. Trade Representative
Western Hemisphere

Everett Eissenstat is responsible for developing, implementing and monitoring trade policy in the Americas. He serves as the lead negotiator for U.S. trade agreements in the Americas, including the U.S.-North American Free Trade Agreement, the U.S.-Central American-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement, and U.S. free trade agreements with Chile, Peru, Colombia and Panama. Eissenstat also manages U.S. trade relations with MERCOSUR, including bilateral trade councils with Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay. In addition, he oversees U.S. trade preference programs in the region, including the Caribbean Basin Initiative and the Andean Trade Preference Act.

Before joining USTR in January 2006, Eissenstat served as the Chief International Trade Counsel to the Chairman of the U.S. Senate Finance Committee, Senator Chuck Grassley where he advised the Chairman on all international trade matters before the Committee and coordinated the international trade work of the Finance Committee Republicans. His legislative responsibilities included Trade Promotion Authority, implementation of free trade agreements, preferential trade arrangements, and sanctions policy. He was also responsible for the oversight of U.S. government international trade agencies.

Before joining the Committee, Eissenstat was the Legislative Director to Congressman Jim Kolbe, where he advised the Congressman on international trade matters, appropriations and foreign affairs. Previously, he worked as a Special Assistant in the Office of the Western Hemisphere at the Office of the USTR. From 1994 to 1995 he was employed as an attorney with the law firm of Dixon and Dixon in Dallas, Texas, where he practiced commercial and customs litigation for the firm. Eissenstat also served as a member of the 2000 Presidential Transition Team for the Office of the United States Trade Representative, the U.S. Department of Commerce Office of Import Administration, and the International Trade Commission.

Eissenstat received his juris doctorate cum laude from the University of Oklahoma where he also served as Research Editor of the Oklahoma Law Review. He also earned a M.A. in Latin American Studies from the University of Texas at Austin and a B.S. in Political Science and Spanish from Oklahoma State University. Eissenstat resides in Alexandria, Virginia with his wife Janet and sons Jacob and Alexander.