



UNITED STATES POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE

## GARY R. BARKSDALE

CHIEF POSTAL INSPECTOR  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS



Gary R. Barksdale was appointed Chief Postal Inspector for the U.S. Postal Inspection Service in March 2019. In his role, Barksdale oversees all operations of the Postal Inspection Service, which includes its national headquarters, 17 field divisions, two service centers and a national forensic laboratory which are staffed by Postal Inspectors, Postal Police Officers and Professional, Technical and Administrative staff. Chief Barksdale is also the chairman of the Universal Postal Union's Postal Security Group. He reports to the Postmaster General.

Prior to his appointment, Chief Barksdale served three years as Deputy Chief Inspector at National Headquarters. He was responsible for several of the Postal Inspection Service's functional areas: Criminal Investigations; Communications, Governance and Strategy; Security; and Contraband Interdiction and Investigations. He was instrumental in leading the agency's strategic planning and its responses to critical incidents; driving its strategies to enhance drug interdictions; and representing the Postal Inspection Service before Congress.

Chief Barksdale began his law enforcement career as a police officer in Chesapeake, Virginia, where he served for seven years, including four years as a detective. In 1999, Barksdale was appointed as a United States Postal Inspector. During his career, he has served in the Los Angeles, Houston and Phoenix Divisions, where he conducted numerous criminal investigations of identity theft, mail theft, robbery and assaults. Barksdale has held several executive leadership positions within the Postal Inspection Service, prior to his current appointment.

Chief Barksdale received a Bachelor of Science degree from Old Dominion University. He is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and the International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators (IAFCI).

As the primary law enforcement arm of the United States Postal Service, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service is a highly specialized, professional organization performing investigative and security functions essential to a stable and sound postal system.