



**Richard Baum**  
**Acting Director of National Drug Control Policy**



Richard J. Baum currently serves as the Acting Director of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

Mr. Baum has served ONDCP for two decades in a variety of positions through four presidential administrations. His previous role was Director of ONDCP's International Division. During this time he led or co-led the development of numerous strategic documents, including the *National Drug Control Strategy*, the *National Southwest Border Counternarcotics Strategy*, the *Synthetic Drug Action Plan*, and the *Strategy to Combat Transnational Organized Crime*.

Over his years at ONDCP he has worked both national security and domestic drug policy issues, served in the Office of Legislative Affairs, and has been a part of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations' Commission on Narcotic Drugs and other meetings with key international partners. Prior to joining ONDCP's staff in 1997, he was a criminal justice writer and researcher and served for six years as a Republican Congressional Staff Member.

Mr. Baum is also an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University's McCourt Graduate School of Public Policy where he teaches a course on the history of American drug policy. He resides in Falls Church, Virginia with his wife and two children.