

Janice Ayala

Special Agent in Charge, Homeland Security Investigations, Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Ms. Janice Ayala is the Special Agent in Charge (SAC), of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) in San Antonio, Texas. As such, Ms. Ayala is responsible for one of the largest districts that encompasses 58 counties, over 500 miles of international border between Mexico and the United States, and two Federal Judicial Districts (Western & Southern Districts of Texas). Additionally, HSI San Antonio contains three Customs and Border Protection sectors and responds to some of the busiest and most challenging ports of entry in the country. Human and contraband smuggling, financial and bulk cash smuggling are but a few of the programmatic areas that characterize the work in this area of responsibility. Ms. Ayala has served in several key management positions. In Washington, D.C., Ms. Ayala served as the Assistant Director of Investigative Programs within HSI. In this capacity, Ms. Ayala was responsible for strategic planning, national policy implementation and the development and execution of operational initiatives spanning major investigative program divisions.

Prior to this assignment, Ms. Ayala served as the Assistant Director of Domestic Operations and had previously served as the Deputy Assistant Director of the Financial, Narcotics and Public Safety Division. In both positions, Ms. Ayala had oversight of investigative efforts of over 7,000 HSI special agents assigned to 26 SAC offices, investigating matters related to national security, terrorism, export enforcement, money laundering, drug and bulk-cash smuggling, human smuggling and trafficking, customs fraud, child pornography, and other financial and immigration fraud. Prior to her Headquarters assignment, Ms. Ayala served as Deputy Special Agent in Charge in Laredo, Texas, where she directed investigations conducted by some of the busiest southern border offices in the nation, specifically Laredo, Falcon Dam, McAllen, Harlingen and Brownsville, Texas. She also served as the Associate SAC and Assistant SAC for HSI San Antonio. Additionally, Ms. Ayala has served as the Resident Agent in Charge and the Acting Assistant Regional Special Agent in Charge, for the former U.S. Customs Service, Office of Internal Affairs in El Paso, Texas.

Ms. Ayala began her federal service career with the U.S. Customs Service as an Intelligence Research Specialist, first in Mississippi then in Washington, D.C. and later served a four and a half year tour in Puerto Rico, where she was assigned as a Senior Special Agent and Caribbean Liaison Officer. Prior to her federal civilian career, Ms. Ayala served four years in a United States Air Force Intelligence Squadron as a Spanish Linguist and Analyst Reporter. Ms. Ayala serves as the Vice President for the Women in Federal Law Enforcement Executive Committee (WIFLE), is a Lifetime Member of WIFLE, and is a Senior Advisor to the WIFLE Foundation. During Ms. Ayala's previous stay in Texas, Ms. Ayala was engaged in extensive volunteer work with the Boys and Girls Club, Crime Stoppers of Laredo, and was a Certified Rape Crisis Counselor for the State of Texas.