Carolyn W. Colvin believes that there is no greater calling than public service. Putting her own retirement on hold, Ms. Colvin returned to public service at the request of President Obama to serve as Deputy Commissioner in January 2011. Since February 14, 2013, Ms. Colvin serves as Acting Commissioner. Receiving the President’s vote of confidence to lead the agency, Ms. Colvin was nominated to serve as the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration on June 20, 2014.

Recently named as the Baltimore Sun’s 2014 “50 women to Watch,” Ms. Colvin brings more than 30 years of senior executive leadership experience to the agency, having led numerous health and human service organizations at the state and municipal levels of government, including serving in various capacities within Social Security. In addition to her role as Acting Commissioner, Ms. Colvin serves as a member of the Social Security Board of Trustees.

As Acting Commissioner, Ms. Colvin oversees one of the largest agencies in the Federal government, with over 60,000 federal employees nationwide plus another 18,000 state employees who make medical determinations in the disability program. The Social Security Administration is responsible for paying over $800 billion each year in monthly benefits to over 60 million recipients. The agency is also responsible for maintaining the lifetime earnings records of over 165 million workers.

Under Ms. Colvin’s leadership, the agency strives to provide excellent customer service in today’s tight fiscal climate while positioning itself to deliver services in the future that meet the changing needs of the public. Acting Commissioner Colvin’s dedication to public service ensures that the agency provides prompt, accurate, and compassionate service—whether online, by phone or in a Social Security office—to the American public.

Ms. Colvin consistently reminds the staff that behind every case or number there is a person or family who is depending on the agency for help.

Ms. Colvin received her Honorary Doctorate, undergraduate and graduate degrees in Business Administration from Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland. She resides in Odenton, Maryland.