

LEADERSHIP BIOGRAPHY

Mr. Patrick Witt

Performing the Duties of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering/Deputy Chief Technology Officer

Mr. Witt is currently Performing the Duties of (PTDO) the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD (RE)). In this role, he assists the Under Secretary and Chief Technology Officer in managing research, development, and prototyping activities across the Department of Defense (DoD) enterprise. He also helps oversee the activities of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), Missile Defense Agency (MDA), Defense Innovation Unit (DIU), DoD Laboratory and engineering Center enterprise, and the Under Secretariat staff focused on developing advanced technology and capability for the U.S. military.



Witt previously served as Deputy Chief of Staff of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management during President Trump's first administration, helping lead workforce management for millions of federal employees, retirees, and their dependents. After leaving government service, he engaged in various entrepreneurial ventures and served as managing director for a lower-middle-market private equity firm.

Witt has also worked for McKinsey & Company where he advised aviation, aerospace, and defense clients across four continents on a wide range of issues.

A graduate of Yale University and Harvard Law School, Witt received numerous academic accolades, including the Francis Gordon Brown Prize, a distinction shared by former President George H.W. Bush, and was also a finalist for the Campbell Trophy, Rhodes, and Mitchell Scholarships. In addition to his academic achievements, he excelled as a student-athlete, shattering numerous school records. At the conclusion of his collegiate career, Witt was invited to participate in the NFL Combine and later signed as a free agent with the New Orleans Saints.

Witt is a proud uncle to Joan, Kirby, Grace, and Charlie. He is a native of Atlanta, Georgia, and a member of the state bar. He is fluent in French.