



**Commission on Wartime Contracting
In Iraq and Afghanistan**

CWC-NR-15
Clark Irwin, (703) 696-9362
clark.irwin@wartimecontracting.gov

Former GAO official Katherine Schinasi named to Commission on Wartime Contracting

ARLINGTON, VA, Nov. 10, 2009 – Katherine V. Schinasi of Washington, DC, has been appointed a member of the independent federal Commission on Wartime Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Senator Harry Reid of Nevada made the appointment under terms of the Commission’s authorizing statute to replace former Commissioner Linda J. Gustitus, who left the eight-member group of commissioners on Oct. 15, 2009.

Ms. Schinasi is a senior advisor to The Conference Board, a non-profit research organization in New York City.

From 1978 until March 2009, she was employed by the Government Accountability Office, serving the last six years as managing director for acquisition and sourcing management. She led a team of 180 people in five U.S. locations, wrote GAO reports on topics including best-practice methodologies for managing government-contractor relationships, and testified before Congress. She was appointed to the federal Senior Executive Service in 1998.

Ms. Schinasi holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Maryland and a master’s degree from the American University School of International Service.

Commission Co-Chairs Michael Thibault and Christopher Shays issued a joint statement welcoming the appointment. “Katherine Schinasi brings to the Commission invaluable experience in analyzing procurement, contracting, and programmatic issues, as well as demonstrated skill in presenting findings to lawmakers. We are delighted with her appointment, and look forward to having the benefit of her skills and experience in our work.”

Congress created the Commission on Wartime Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan in 2008 (Public Law 110-181) to research federal contracting for reconstruction, logistical support, and security functions, and to recommend improvements. In addition to Thibault and Shays, members are Clark Kent Ervin, Grant Green, Robert Henke, Charles Tiefer, and Dov Zakheim.

For more information on the Commission, including an Interim Report to Congress and special reports, see the website www.wartimecontracting.gov.

###