GovExec



Thursday, June 25, 2026

8 AM EDT
1 HR

Registration, Exhibition, and Breakfast

9 AM EDT
5 MINS

Opening Remarks



Frank Konkel
Editor-in-Chief
GovExec

9:05 AM EDT
30 MINS
Keynote

Opening Keynote Briefing



Rezaur Rahman
Government Chair
ATARC Working Group: Threat Intelligence

9:35 AM EDT
40 MINS
Panel

AI and Federal Missions



Capacine Abdul-Aziz
Deputy Executive Director, Border Enforcement & Management Systems Directorate
US Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Department of Homeland Security



Rick Miner
Acting Assistant Chief Information Officer for Satellites
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce



Isabel Rioja-Scott
Director of AI Workforce Enablement
U.S. Department of State



Frank Konkel
Editor-in-Chief
GovExec

Artificial intelligence is creating new opportunities for agencies to strengthen mission delivery, improve decision-making, and respond more effectively to complex challenges. This panel will explore how federal organizations are applying AI to support operational priorities, enhance public services, and drive more informed outcomes across mission areas. Speakers will discuss practical use cases, key implementation considerations, and the broader opportunities and risks associated with AI adoption in government. Attendees will gain insights into how agencies are aligning AI initiatives with mission needs while building the foundation for long-term success.

10:15 AM EDT
15 MINS

Securing the Mission: Operationalizing Agentic AI for Proactive Cyber Defense

Google Public Sector



John Lake
Senior Security Engineer
Google Public Sector



Iris Konstant
Editor & Social Lead, Branded Content
GovExec

As government agencies move artificial intelligence from experimentation to enterprise-wide implementation, cybersecurity can no longer be an afterthought—it must be the foundation. In this fireside chat, Google Public Sector security leaders will discuss how agencies are reversing the "defender's dilemma" by operationalizing an Agentic Defense. The conversation will explore the critical transition from manual, reactive security operations to intelligent, AI-driven workflows. Attendees will learn how unifying threat intelligence with generative AI allows agencies to anticipate adversary behavior and ensure continuous mission readiness in a contested digital environment.

10:30 AM EDT
30 MINS

Break & Emerging Technology Showcase

11:05 AM EDT
45 MINS
Panel

Using AI in Federal IT Modernization



Patrick Breen
Senior Procurement Executive
National Science Foundation



Thomas Mills
Executive Director, Cargo Systems Program Directorate
U.S. Customs and Border Protection



Ryan Palmer
USAi Architecture Lead
U.S. General Services Administration



Matt Passos
Acting Chief Technology Officer
U.S. Department of Commerce



Jason Miller
Executive Editor
Federal News Network

As agencies modernize legacy systems and update their technology environments, artificial intelligence is emerging as a powerful tool for improving efficiency, streamlining operations, and accelerating transformation. This panel will examine how AI is being integrated into IT modernization efforts, from automation and analytics to infrastructure management and service delivery. Speakers will share lessons learned, common challenges, and strategies for ensuring AI adoption supports security, scalability, and mission alignment. Attendees will leave with a better understanding of how AI can help shape more agile, resilient, and future-ready federal IT environments.

11:50 AM EDT
15 MINS

Content in Context: The Critical Layer to Making AI Work



Keith Nelson
Senior Strategist, Global Public Sector
OpenText

Content in Context: Why your dark, unstructured, disconnected data is impeding your AI initiatives, and how incorporating a governed knowledge activation layer – without ripping-and-replacing existing systems – can create the ideal environment for AI success.

12:05 PM EDT
20 MINS
Keynote

Fireside Chat



Basia Sall
Chief Data Officer and Deputy Chief AI Officer
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission



Frank Konkel
Editor-in-Chief
GovExec

12:25 PM EDT
5 MINS

Agentic AI Working Group Briefing

12:30 PM EDT
55 MINS

Lunch & Emerging Technology Showcase

1:25 PM EDT
15 MINS

Making Data AI-Ready: Building the Foundation for Mission Success



Dan Kent
AVP, Federal Engineering
Everpure



Shea Connelly
Executive Editor, Branded Content
GovExec

Data quality, accessibility, and governance are critical to successful AI adoption. This discussion will explore how organizations are preparing their data environments for AI, addressing fragmentation across systems, and building the operational foundations needed to support long-term AI success.

1:40 PM EDT
55 MINS
Panel

AI Powered Cybersecurity in 2026



Derrick Davis
Senior Fellow
Center for Research and Emergent Manufacturing, University of Maryland Baltimore County



Donald Heckman
Former Deputy Chief Information Officer, Cybersecurity
U.S. Department of Defense



Hussein Johnson
Senior Cyber Security Analyst and Zero Trust Lead
Cybersecurity Directorate, Office of Chief Information Officer, U.S. Army



Rudolf Rojas
IT Manager
U.S. Department of Agriculture



Jason Tant
Assistant Director, Cybersecurity Operations
U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission



Michael Woods
Assistant Director (Acting) and Special Agent
Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Directorate of Operational Technology and Cyber Innovation, U.S. Navy



David DiMolfetta
Cybersecurity Reporter
Nextgov/FCW

As cyber threats grow more complex, agencies are exploring how artificial intelligence can do more than support detection and response. This panel will examine how AI is reshaping cybersecurity operations through emerging approaches such as large language model applications and more autonomous, agentic security operations. Speakers will discuss how these capabilities can improve threat analysis, accelerate investigations, strengthen situational awareness, and support faster, more adaptive decision-making. The conversation will also address the governance, transparency, and risk considerations that come with integrating more advanced AI into cyber workflows.

2:35 PM EDT

5 MINS

Closing Remarks