

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Kathleen August
International Trade Consultant, CEO, Former CBP Auditor
Global Trade Advisors



Kathleen August applies her deep expertise in international trade regulations to help businesses understand both sides of the trade compliance equation. By bridging private sector practice with years of governmental experience, she empowers clients to build credible and supportable compliance programs, determine correct customs valuation and leverage legal duty-savings opportunities.

Before Kathleen founded Global Trade Advisors, she worked for more than three decades as a Senior Auditor at the Office of Trade, Customs & Border Protection (CBP) in Detroit. Her extensive public-sector background provides a rare insider perspective on how federal agencies assess and enforce trade regulations.

Kathleen's valuation expertise and knowledge of free trade programs is reinforced by her first-hand experience across various industries, including automotive (whole vehicle and OEMs), electronics, steel and derivatives, pharmaceuticals, agriculture and mass merchandise. Her understanding of these sectors allows her to readily identify best practices for trade compliance and opportunities for legal duty savings.

While at CBP, Kathleen led complex audits, risk assessments and investigative work including serving as the lead Auditor on the first Enforce and Protect Act (EAPA) investigation of antidumping duties evasion performed in the U.S. She also assisted the Department of Justice on various investigations. In addition, Kathleen worked on-site in Mexican Maquiladoras auditing U.S. Goods Returned (9802) programs. Kathleen currently assists clients in responding to CBP inquiries and actions, including CF-28s, perfecting prior disclosures and preparing E-allegations. She has also prepared IEEPA tariff refund requests and has worked on Section 232 offsets. She often consults clients on strategies and opportunities for legal duty savings.

In her community, Kathleen has served on various Boards of Directors and Executive Committees for nonprofit institutions. She holds a Masters of Business Administration and a Bachelors of Business Administration with a major in accounting.