

Barbara Cummings

Barbara Cummings earned a B.A. degree in history from Brandeis University in 1978, and a J.D. degree from the George Washington University in 1981. She is a member of the District of Columbia Bar Association.

In 1982, she joined the Department of State as a Foreign Service officer and spent her first assignment in Athens, Greece as a vice-consul. After Greece, Barbara was assigned to Jamaica, the United Kingdom, Albania, Canada, Peru and Italy. In 1991, Barbara became the first U.S. Consul to serve in Albania following a 48-year break in diplomatic relations between the U.S. and formerly communist and isolationist Albania. She also had three tours in Washington, D.C. In 1998, she graduated from the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. with a M.S. degree in national security strategy. Her final overseas assignment was as Minister Counselor for Consular Affairs and Consul General in Rome, Italy. She served as Diplomat in Residence for the Washington, D.C., Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia and Northern Virginia region based at Howard University from 2008 until her retirement from the Department in 2010.

Her foreign languages include Italian, Spanish, Greek and Albanian. She received four Superior Honor Awards and several Meritorious Honor Awards during her 28-year career in the Foreign Service. She was the 2007 recipient of the Mary A. Ryan award for Outstanding Public Service.