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Mal Zerden

Mal Zerden was a Supervisory Defense Controls Analyst and Division Chief of the Aircraft Division in the Department of State's Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC). He has participated in numerous export conferences and lectured on a wide range of topics related to defense trade controls and the ITAR.

During his 27 years of experience in State/DDTC, he supervised the work of licensing analysts, ensuring that they were properly trained. Mr. Zerden's division was responsible for licensing defense articles and related technical data for military aircraft. During his 27 years in DDTC, Mr. Zerden either authorized or supervised the licensing of every USML Category. He reviewed the work of licensing analysts and signed Commodity Jurisdiction (CJ) requests and Agreements. Mr. Zerden assisted industry and foreign governments in resolving issues that arose with pending cases and provided guidance on complex licensing scenarios. He also interpreted the ITAR and provided training to Customs officials (CBP and ICE) and supported law enforcement organizations which sometimes involved testifying at trials that involved violations of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA).

Prior to his work at the DDTC, Mr. Zerden worked in the Consular Affairs Bureau at the State Department, serving as Passport Officer and Management Analyst.

Mr. Zerden holds a B.A. from the State University of New York College at Cortland and an M.A. in International Relations with an emphasis on U.S. Foreign Policy from American University in Washington, D.C.