

Matthew S. Tejada joined the EPA in March of 2013 as Director of the Office of Environmental Justice. As Director, Matthew leads the Environmental Justice Program's cross-cutting work throughout the EPA and federal government. This includes working with communities, other EPA divisions, federal agencies, academic partners, business and industry, and state, local and tribal partners to further the mission of the EPA and its efforts to advance environmental justice. Before his career at EPA, Matthew spent over five years in the non-profit world as executive director of the environmental advocacy Air Alliance Houston, where he focused his efforts on environmental justice issues affecting the many overburdened communities in the Houston and Texas Gulf Coast area, regionwide ozone reduction policies and alleviation of toxic and particulate matter hotspots. In this position, Matthew was also centrally involved in local, state and federal level legislative and policy formation as regards environmental and public health issues. Matthew received his Doctorate and Master's degrees from the University of Oxford where he was a member of St. Antony's College. His research and dissertations largely focused on environmental and energy policy, international relations, politics and the development and role of civil society. Matthew received a BA in English from the University of Texas at Austin, then served two years in the Peace Corps in Bulgaria as a high school teacher of English as a foreign language. Matthew is a native of Ft. Worth, Texas.