

## **William A. Heidt, Former U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia**



Ambassador William (Bill) A. Heidt served as the U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia from September 2015 to November 2018. During his tenure, Ambassador Heidt launched initiatives to expand trade and investment between the U.S. and Cambodia, strengthen respect for human rights and democracy, build Cambodia's nascent technology sector, and empower Cambodia's very impressive women entrepreneurs.

Prior to his service in Cambodia, Ambassador Heidt, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, served as Chief of Staff to the Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment at the Department of State. In that role, Ambassador Heidt helped shape U.S. global engagement on international economic, trade, energy, and environmental issues, including Secretarial initiatives on wildlife trafficking, ocean conservation, and economic diplomacy.

Ambassador Heidt is an avid traveler and outdoorsman, and during his assignment in Phnom Penh, he traveled to all 25 Cambodian provinces and climbed the country's tallest mountain, Phnom Aural in Kampong Speu province.

Ambassador Heidt was born and raised in Erie, Pennsylvania, and is married with one son. He speaks Khmer, Polish, Indonesian, and German. His wife Sotie is a Cambodian-American who was born in Pursat Province, Cambodia.

Ambassador Heidt's other tours include assignments in Jakarta, Indonesia; Phnom Penh, Cambodia; Warsaw and Poznan, Poland; New York, NY; and Washington, D.C.