



Richard Williams, PhD
Senior Affiliated Scholar, Mercatus Center of George Mason University

Dr. Richard A Williams is retired from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration with 27 years experience. At FDA, he was responsible for economic analysis, consumer studies and epidemiology for the Center for Food Safety and Nutrition. Subsequently, he was a Vice President for Policy at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University for nine years. He is currently a Senior Affiliated Scholar with the Mercatus Center and with Utah State's Center for Growth and Opportunity. He is also on the Board of Trustees for the International Life Sciences Institute. He has served on a National Academy of Sciences panel, served as President of the Virginia Chapter of the Society for Risk Analysis and has served as an advisor to the Harvard Center for Risk Analysis. He has extensive knowledge of risk analysis including risk/risk, health/health and benefit-cost analysis. Dr. Williams has created and taught classes on risk analysis for USDA and FDA. He has been invited to testify before the House and Senate multiple times on regulatory issues and has appeared on radio and television, including CNBC, National Public Radio, Reuters, Bloomberg, the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal. He has been invited to speak in multiple countries. He frequently writes op-eds that have a national audience on risk, economic and regulatory issues. He has given keynote speeches within the last several years to the Governance of Emerging Technologies at ASU and the International Life Sciences Institute on emerging technologies. Dr. Williams received his Ph.D. in economics from Virginia Tech and his BS in business administration from Old Dominion University.