



**Brian T. Varney, Senior Advisor -  
International Maritime Infrastructure Development,  
Maritime Administration,  
Department of Transportation**

Mr. Varney currently serves as Senior Advisor, at the Maritime Administration on International Maritime Infrastructure Development for the Department of Transportation. He's currently executing the Port of Colombo Technical Assistance Program Colombo and the regional Bay of Bengal Multilateral Infrastructure Connectivity Initiative (BoBMICI), funded by State's South-Central Asia (SCA) Bureau.

Previously Mr. Varney served as MARAD's Liaison officer (LNO) to the Joint Chiefs of Staff (J4) from 2017 to 2019, responsible for facilitating and coordinating policy and planning on strategic sealift, and maritime industrial support infrastructure. From 2015 to 2017, he was Special Assistant to the Executive Director, Maritime Administration. In this role, he handled a broad range of functions that impact many programs, policies, and initiatives. These including special projects, infrastructure, ports, and other programs.

From 2010 to 2015 Mr. Varney directed the US\$50 million Guam Commercial Port Improvement Program (GCPI) funded by the Department of Defense. As project director he established overall goals, objectives, priorities, and operational plans for the program. The GCPI project completed on time and under budget.

For two years (2009 -10) Mr. Varney served as the Senior Maritime Advisor at the U.S. Embassy Baghdad, Iraq, in the Office of the Transportation Attaché (OTA). He directed the Joint Interagency Task Force (JIATF) at Umm Qasr Port and led USG efforts on maritime and port related issues.

As an International Economist in the Office of International Activities, (MARAD), from 2004 to 2009, Mr. Varney worked on multilateral maritime trade and port issues at the World Trade Organization (WTO), United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), and worked the bilateral maritime agreements with China, Russia and Vietnam.

He joined DOT in 2004 after having spent more than 20 years in Asia working in agribusiness, shipping, finance, and investments. During that time, he managed large projects and cross-border transactions involving complex legal, financial, and regulatory approvals.

Mr. Varney holds a master's degree in International Commerce and Policy, with a graduate certificate in Transportation, Operations, Planning, and Logistics from George Mason University. He is a certified commercial lender from Southwest Graduate School of Banking at SUM and holds a bachelor's degree in Chinese Studies with a minor in economics. He was a national scholarship exchange student at Beijing University, PRC.

Mr. Varney is married to Nittayporn (Pick) Chaiyakham and they live in Old Town Alexandria, VA.