

A native of Georgia, Sally Quillian Yates served in the Department of Justice for twenty seven years. She began her public service career in September 1989 as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Northern District of Georgia. Over the next two decades, she prosecuted a wide range of cases, including numerous white collar fraud and political corruption matters, and served as the lead prosecutor of Olympic bomber Eric Rudolph. Ms. Yates held several supervisory positions within the office until 2010, when she was appointed to lead the office as its first female United States Attorney.

Ms. Yates served as a U.S. Attorney until 2015, when she was formally nominated for the position of Deputy Attorney General. As Deputy Attorney General, Ms. Yates oversaw day-to-day operations of the Department of Justice. Her responsibilities included oversight of all facets of the Department's work, including its four law enforcement agencies (the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the United States Marshals Service), its prosecutorial, litigating, and national security components, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, and the Department's various grant-making and legal services offices. She served in that position from her confirmation on May 13, 2015 until January 20, 2017, when she took over from Attorney General Loretta Lynch as Acting Attorney General. She served as Acting Attorney General until her departure from the Department of Justice on January 30, 2017.

Before joining the Department of Justice, Ms. Yates graduated magna cum laude from the University of Georgia School of Law and practiced commercial litigation at a law firm in Atlanta. She and her husband Comer have two children.