

**James R. Heller**  
**Deputy Chief of Mission**  
**U.S. Embassy in Seoul**



James “Jim” Heller began his assignment as Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Seoul in July 2025. Mr. Heller is a career member of the U.S. Senior Foreign Service and most recently served as Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Australia, New Zealand, and Pacific Islands in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs. Prior to that, he was Consul General in Shanghai. In Washington, Mr. Heller has served in the Office of Japanese Affairs, Office of Taiwan Coordination, Office of Korean Affairs, Operations Center, Office of Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus Affairs, and Office of Multilateral Trade Affairs. Overseas, Mr. Heller has served twice at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, as well as at the U.S. Embassies in Seoul and Kyiv and with the ROK-led Regional Reconstruction Team in Erbil.

Mr. Heller, a U.S. Army veteran, has a B.A. and M.A. from the University of Michigan and is a Hopkins-Nanjing Center graduate. He and his wife Lisa, a retired Senior Foreign Service Officer, have an adult daughter and son.