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Jane Messenger joined the Foreign Service in 1992 as an Economic Officer. She recently completed a one-year detail at the White House as Vice President Biden's Special Advisor for South and Central Asia, where she focused on U.S. policy towards Afghanistan and Pakistan. Prior to that, she served as a Deputy Director in the State Department's Office of Western Europe, covering France, Spain, Italy, Portugal, and Malta. From 2009-11, Jane served at Embassy Kabul as the Deputy Director of the Interagency Provincial Affairs office. Jane has also had tours in Helsinki, Brussels, and Karachi, and two tours in the European bureau as a desk officer (Hungary and Croatia).

Jane graduated from Smith College with a degree in economics and she received her Master's degree in International Affairs from Columbia University in New York. She speaks French and Finnish and is the mother of 14-year old twins.