David Cariens is a retired CIA officer--31-year career. Most of his time at the Agency was spent as a political analyst dealing with Eastern Europe. In this capacity he wrote for all levels of the U.S. government—from the President to the working level analysts and policymakers.

Cariens served in Eastern Europe and as an editor at the BBC-FBIS facility outside London. He headed the CIA University program to teach new analysts writing and briefing skills. He also served on the Agency's Inspector General's staff.

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