OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1950

ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

FEB 19 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DEPUTY CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
DIRECTOR OF COST ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM EVALUATION
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Revised Department of Defense (DoD) Order of Precedence

This memorandum updates the Order of Precedence list published September 26, 2008. This update reflects organizational changes resulting from the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, Public Law No. 110-417, and the Weapon Systems Acquisition Reform Act of 2009, Public Law No. 111-23, as well as other recommended and approved changes, that have occurred since September 2008. This update also includes changes resulting from the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, Public Law 111-84. Further, this update will be the baseline for a subsequent version of the Order of Precedence which will reflect the Department's implementation of Section 906(a)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010.

This Order of Precedence list is used to determine the order of precedence for the following:

(1) official visit activities;
(2) assignment of government quarters;
(3) seating arrangements and similar requirements at official functions, aboard government aircraft, and other activities requiring precedence decisions; and
(4) for other administrative matters as prescribed in DoD issuances.

OSD 01922-10

Requests for changes to this list should include detailed justification and forwarded through the organizational chain of command to: Director, Washington Headquarters Services, ATTN: Director, Executive Services, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Room 3C842, Washington, DC 20301-1155, phone (703) 693-7965.

The Director, Administration and Management is the final approval authority for all changes to the list.

Michael L. Rhodes
Acting Director

Attachment:
As stated

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (**as of 19 Feb 10**)

CODE 2

Secretary of Defense
Deputy Secretary of Defense
Secretary of the Army
Secretary of the Navy
Secretary of the Air Force
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (precedes Service Secretaries on acquisition matters)
Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer
Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness
Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence
Deputy Chief Management Officer (see note 1)
Retired Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Retired Vice Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Chief of Staff, Army, Commandant of the Marine Corps, Chief of Naval Operations, and Chief of Staff, Air Force (see note 2)
Commandant of the Coast Guard
Retired Chiefs of Staff, Army, Commandants of the Marine Corps, Chiefs of Naval Operations, Chiefs of Staff, Air Force, and Commandants of the Coast Guard (see note 2)
Combatant Commanders (see note 3)
Retired Combatant Commanders (see note 3)
Chief, National Guard Bureau (see note 22)
Commander, U.S. Forces-Iraq (see note 24)

CODE 3

Under Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force (see note 4)
Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (see note 11)
Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness
Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) (see note 11)
Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence (see note 11)
Director of Defense Research and Engineering

CODE 3 (continued)

Assistant Secretaries of Defense (see list in note 5) and Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs (ATSD(NCB)) (see note 19), General Counsel of the Department of Defense, Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, and Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation (see note 21); (note 4 applies overall to this grouping)

Inspector General of the Department of Defense

Chief Judges and Judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals of the Armed Forces

Vice Chief of Staff, Army, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, Vice Chief of Naval Operations, and Vice Chief of Staff, Air Force (see note 2)

Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard

Generals and Admirals (4-star) (see note 6)

Assistant Service Secretaries and General Counsels of the Army, Navy, and Air Force (see note 4)

Director of Operational Energy Plans and Programs (see note 20)

Retired Generals and Admirals (4-star)

Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction

Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction

Director of Developmental Test and Evaluation and Director of Systems Engineering (see notes 7 and 21)

The Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Defense

Assistants to the Secretary of Defense (includes Special Assistants to the Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense, Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Oversight, and other Assistants as may be designated from time to time by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense; but does not include the ATSD(NCB) (see note 7)

Director, Administration and Management

Director, Net Assessment

Assistant Deputy Chief Management Officer

Defense Advisor U.S. Mission NATO, Secretary of Defense Representative to Europe

Chairmen of the Defense Policy Board Advisory Committee, Defense Science Board, Reserve Forces Policy Board, and the Defense Business Board (see note 7)

National Chairman, National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

CODE 4 (see note 8)

Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense (see note 7)

Directors of Defense Agencies (see note 9)

Directors of DoD Field Activities (see note 10)

Deputy Director of Defense Research and Engineering

Principal Assistant Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense (see note 7)

CODE 4 (continued)

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretaries of Defense, Principal Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs (see note 19), Principal Deputy General Counsel of the Department of Defense, and Principal Deputy Director of Operational Test and Evaluation (see note 7)

Deputy Director for Cost Assessment and Deputy Director for Program Evaluation (see notes 7 and 21)

Principal Deputy Inspector General of the Department of Defense

The Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Army, to the Secretary of the Navy, and to the Secretary of the Air Force (see note 7)

Administrative Assistants to Secretaries of the Army and Air Force, and Assistant for Administration to the Under Secretary of the Navy (see note 7)

Deputy Under Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force (see note 7)

Senior Enlisted Advisors (Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Sergeant Major of the Army, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard) (see note 12)

Lieutenant Generals and Vice Admirals (3-star) (see note 6)

Retired Lieutenant Generals and Vice Admirals (3-star)

Chairman, U.S. Section of the Permanent Joint Board of Defense, U.S.-Canada

Principal Deputy Assistant Service Secretaries and Principal Deputy General Counsels of the Army, Navy, and Air Force (see note 7)

Deputy Assistant Secretaries of Defense, Deputy Assistants to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs, Deputy General Counsels of the Department of Defense, and Deputy Directors of Operational Test and Evaluation (see note 7)

Deputy Inspectors General of the Department of Defense (see note 7)

Deputy Comptrollers of the Department of Defense (see note 7)

Assistant Inspectors General of the Department of Defense (see note 7)

Assistant Inspectors General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (see note 7)

Assistant Inspectors General for Iraq Reconstruction (see note 7)

Deputy Defense Advisor, U.S. Mission NATO

Secretary of Defense Representatives to International Negotiations (e.g., The SECDEF Representative to Post-START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty))

Members of Secretary of Defense Boards (Defense Policy Board Advisory Committee, Defense Science Board, Reserve Forces Policy Board, Defense Business Board, and Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services)

The Auditors General of the Army, Navy, and Air Force (see note 7)

Other Members of the Senior Executive Service in Tier 3 positions (see note 16)

Executive Director, National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

CODE 5 (see note 8)
Assistant Deputy Under Secretaries and Principal Directors (see note 7)
Major Generals and Rear Admirals (2-star) (see note 6)
Deputy Assistant Service Secretaries and Deputy General Counsels of the Army, Navy, and Air Force (see note 7)
Deputy Director, Net Assessment
Other Members of the Senior Executive Service in Tier 2 positions (see note 16)

CODE 6 (see note 8)
Brigadier Generals and Rear Admirals (Lower Half) (1-star) (see note 6)
Members of the Senior Executive Service in Tier 1 positions (see note 16)
Personnel in Senior Level (SL), Scientific and Professional (ST), and Defense Intelligence Senior Level (DISL) positions (see notes 14 and 16)
Appointees as Highly Qualified Experts (HQE) (see notes 15 and 16)

NOTES:

1. Precedence for the Deputy Chief Management Officer (DCMO) position is informed by Section 904 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, Public Law No. 110-181.

2. Precedence is established by the date of appointment to the position.

3. Precedence is established by the date of appointment as a Combatant Commander. However, if a Combatant Commander was previously appointed to one of these positions, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Service Chief, or a previous Combatant Commander position, then the initial date of appointment to the previously held position will be used.

4. Within a group listed on a line under a code, precedence for Senate confirmed civilian positions is established by date of appointment.

5. The current designations of the twelve Assistant Secretaries of Defense are (listed alphabetically): Acquisition (see note 11), Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, Global Strategic Affairs, Health Affairs, Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs, International Security Affairs, Legislative Affairs, Logistics and Materiel Readiness (see note 11), Networks and Information Integration, Public Affairs, Reserve Affairs, and Special Operations/Low Intensity Conflict and Interdependent Capabilities.

6. Precedence is by date of rank in the serving grade.

7. For statutory positions within the same group relative precedence among individuals is determined by the date that each of them were appointed to their positions. Similarly, for non-statutory positions within the same group, relative precedence is also determined by the date that an individual was appointed to their position.

8. Based on USD (P&R) memorandum dated April 28, 2008, subject: Directive-Type Memorandum (DTM) – Senior Executive Service Tier Policy for Career and Non-Career Senior Executive Service Members, a common 3-tier structure was implemented for members of the DoD Senior Executive Service (SES). The Military Departments, the OSD, and some Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities have identified the positions that fall into each tier, although tiering determinations across the entire Department using a common architecture has not been completely implemented. The applicability of the policy in referenced DTM may be administratively extended to the Defense Intelligence Senior Executive Service (DISES) by the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence.

   In general, precedence for members of the SES is established by the tier in which the position is categorized. SL, ST, DISL professional positions are not included in the SES Tier structure. It is not possible to identify and list the title for each SES and DISES position within the Department on this order of precedence list. To the extent possible, this update reflects the principal positions held by members of the SES. The principal factors for determining the precedence for SES/DISES whose positions are not specified on the order of precedence are where their positions are in their organization's hierarchy and the tier level assigned to each of those positions (SES only). In general, the following is the equivalency of SES positions in relation to order of precedence code and General/Flag Officer (GFO):

   a. Tier 3 positions in Code 4 are considered 3-star equivalents;

   b. Tier 2 positions are in either Code 4 or 5; GFO equivalency is 2 or 3-stars (Tier 2 positions listed in Code 4 are to be considered 3-star equivalents while those in Code 5 are to be considered 2-star equivalents);

   c. Tier 1 positions are in Code 6 and are considered 1-star equivalents.

   If an SES's position is within the same code as that of the SES's supervisor, whether that supervisor is a military officer or civilian, the supervisor always takes precedence over the subordinate.

   SES tiering information for their respective positions will be maintained by and available from each Military Department and the DA&M for the OSD, Defense Agencies, and DoD Field Activities. For DISES members, that information can be obtained from the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence.

9. Precedence for Directors and the Principal Deputy Directors of Defense Agencies is determined by the establishment date of the organization. Questions regarding the rationale for the methodology and historical data may be addressed to the Directorate for Organizational and Management Planning within the Office of the Director of Administration and Management.

   a. The Defense Agencies are listed alphabetically as follows: Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), 1958; Defense Business Transformation Agency (BTA) 2005; Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA), 1990; Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA), 1965; Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA), 2000; Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), 1990; Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), 1960; Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), 1961; Defense Legal Services Agency (DLSA), 1981; Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), 1961; Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA), 1971; Defense Security Service (DSS), 1972; Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), 1959; Missile Defense Agency (MDA), 1984; National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), 1972; National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), 1961; National Security Agency (NSA)/Central Security Service (CSS), 1952; Pentagon Force Protection Agency (PFPA), 2002.

   b. The Defense Agencies, in order by date of establishment, are as follows: NSA/CSS, 1952; DARPA, 1958; DTRA, 1959; DISA, 1960; DIA, 1961; DLA, 1961; NRO, 1961; DCAA, 1965; DSCA, 1971; NGA, 1972; DSS, 1972; DLSA, 1981; MDA, 1984; DeCA, 1990; DFAS, 1990; DCMA, 2000; PFPA, 2002; BTA, 2005.

10. Precedence for Directors and Principal Deputy Directors of the DoD Field Activities is determined by the establishment date of the organization. Questions regarding the rationale for the methodology and historical data may be addressed to the Directorate for Organizational and Management Planning within the Office of the Director of Administration and Management.

   a. The DoD Field Activities are listed alphabetically as follows: Defense Media Activity (DMA), 1977; Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO), 1993; Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC), 2004; Defense Technology Security Administration (DTSA), 1985; DoD Education Activity (DoDEA), 1974; DoD Human Resources Activity (DoDHRA), 1993; DoD Test Resource Management Center (TRMC), 2004; TRICARE Management Activity (TMA), 1974; Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA), 1978; and Washington Headquarters Services (WHS), 1977.

b. The DoD Field Activities, in order by date of establishment, are as follows: DoDEA, 1974; TMA, 1974; DMA, 1977; WHS, 1977; OEA, 1978; DTSA, 1985; DPMO, 1993; DoDHRA, 1993; TRMC, 2004; DTIC, 2004.

11. Under the provisions of Section 906 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, Public Law No. 111-84, the positions of Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology and Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Logistics and Materiel Readiness were eliminated. New positions for the Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Logistics and Materiel Readiness were established by Section 906. In addition, Section 906 created the positions of Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) and Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, and these positions will become Presidentially Appointed, Senate-confirmed (PAS) positions the first time that the Senate confirms and the President appoints individuals to serve in the positions.

12. Code 4 precedence applies only to the currently serving Senior Enlisted Advisor (SEA) to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Service Senior Enlisted Advisors. Certain protocol functions may require a deviation from the established precedence. Order of precedence within the group of Service Senior Enlisted Advisors is in order by date of Service establishment. Retired senior enlisted advisors should be placed in front of other retired members of the same grade (E-9).

13. For Joint Staff and Service-related functions and activities, when appropriate to do so, the Joint Staff and the Military Departments may adjust the established order of precedence as necessary. Contact the appropriate Joint Staff or Service Protocol Office for further information and guidance.

14. SL, ST, and DISL personnel serve in positions that are classified above the National Security Personnel System Pay Band 03/GS-15 level. Although they are not members of the Senior Executive Service (SES) or Defense Intelligence Senior Executive Service (DISES), the level of duties and responsibilities of SL/ST/DISL personnel warrant that they should be recognized as serving, at a minimum, at the Code 6 level. It is not possible to identify and list the title for each SL/ST/DISL position within the Department on this order of precedence list. The principal factor for determining whether the precedence for an SL/ST/DISL member should be in a higher code is dependent on that member's position within his or her organization's hierarchy.

15. Under the authority of 5 U.S.C. § 9903, the Department of Defense has the ability to attract and hire eminent experts from outside the civil service and uniformed services with state-of-the-art knowledge in fields of critical importance to the

Department. The individuals who are hired under this authority are referred to as HQEs. Due to the level of duties and responsibilities of HQE, they warrant recognition at the Code 6 level.

16. Precedence is established by date of appointment.

17. Should an official serve as "Acting" under the provisions of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, as amended (5 U.S.C. §§ 3345-3349d), that official will be afforded the protocol level for the position in which serving as "Acting."

18. Except as noted herein, the provisions of this memorandum are not applicable to former civilian officials of the Department as they do not retain the precedence associated with their position upon departure from that position. In recognition of their past service in the Department, courtesies and recognition may be extended to them as appropriate. Precedence is retained, however, by former Secretaries of Defense due to their status as Presidential cabinet members, and by retired members of the military since they retain the grade in which they were retired.

19. Under the provisions of Section 905 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, Public Law No. 110-417, 10 U.S.C. §142 was amended to direct that the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs (ATSD(NCB)) shall be considered an Assistant Secretary of Defense for the purpose of precedence.

20. Under the provisions of Section 902 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, Public Law No. 110-417, the position of the Director of Operational Energy Plans and Programs was codified at 10 U.S.C. §139b as a PAS position. While the Executive Schedule Level (ESL) for this position has not been determined, since it is a PAS position it will be in Code 3. This placement may be changed once the ESL is determined.

21. Under the provisions of the Weapon Systems Acquisition Reform Act of 2009, Public Law No. 111-23, the position of Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation was codified at 10 U.S.C. §139c as a PAS position. The position of Director, Program and Analysis and Evaluation was eliminated. Additionally, the positions of Deputy Director for Cost Assessment and Deputy Director for Program Evaluation were also provided for in 10 U.S.C. §139c, and the positions of Director of Developmental Test and Evaluation and Director of Systems Engineering were established at 10 U.S.C. §139d.

22. Under the provisions of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, Public Law No. 110-181, 10 U.S.C. §10502 was amended to specify that the Chief of the National Guard Bureau would be appointed in the grade of General.

23. Precedence for those detailed to the Department under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) will be based on the position to which assigned. For example, an IPA assigned the position of a Director of a DoD Field Activity would be in Code 4 (Directors of DoD Field Activities are listed in Code 4); an IPA assigned to a Tier 1 SES position would be afforded Code 6 status (see note 8). If an IPA is assigned to an executive level position not listed on the DoD Order of Precedence, and the component/Military Department wants that person to be at a specified precedence level, then there are two courses of action:

    (1) Send a request with supporting justification to the proponent for the precedence list (see cover memo for details).

    (2) If arranged by a Military Department, the Military Department can set its own level of precedence (see note 13). However, that precedence may not be recognized at the DoD or any other level outside of the Military Department.

24. Effective January 1, 2010 per Secretary of Defense memorandum dated June 25, 2009, the title for Multi-National Forces- Iraq changed to U.S. Forces-Iraq.