SUBJECT: Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs (ASD(RA))

References:  
(a) Title 10, United States Code  

1. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive, consistent with section 138 of Reference (a), reissues Reference (b) under the authority of Reference (c) to update the responsibilities, functions, relationships, and authorities of the ASD(RA) under the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)).

2. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Military Departments (including the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a Service in the Navy, under agreement with the Department of Homeland Security), the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the Department of Defense (hereafter referred to collectively as the “DoD Components”).

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1. Reserve Components. Refers collectively to the Army National Guard of the United States, the Army Reserve, the Navy Reserve, the Marine Corps Reserve, the Air National Guard
of the United States, the Air Force Reserve, and the Coast Guard Reserve, when the Coast Guard is operating as a Service of the Department of the Navy.

3.2. Total Force. The organizations, units, and individuals that comprise DoD resources for implementing the National Security Strategy. It includes DoD Active and Reserve military personnel, military retired members, DoD civilian personnel (including foreign national direct- and indirect-hire, as well as nonappropriated fund employees), contractor personnel, and host-nation support personnel.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS

The ASD(RA) is the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense and the USD(P&R) for Reserve component matters in the Department of Defense. The ASD(RA) is responsible for overall supervision of all Reserve component affairs in the Department of Defense. In this capacity, the ASD(RA) shall:

4.1. Develop policies, conduct analyses, provide advice, and make recommendations to the USD(P&R) and the Secretary of Defense.

4.2. Issue guidance to the DoD Components on matters pertaining to the Reserve components.

4.3. Develop systems and standards for the administration and management of approved DoD Reserve component plans and programs.

4.4. Develop and promulgate plans, programs, actions, and taskings to ensure adherence to DoD policies and national security objectives to promote the effective integration of Reserve component capabilities into a cohesive Total Force.

4.5. Review and evaluate programs of the DoD Components that impact on the Reserve components; monitor the activities of Reserve component organizations, training facilities, and associations; and undertake other management oversight activities as may be required to ensure that policies, plans, programs, and actions pertaining to the Reserve components:

4.5.1. Adhere to approved DoD policies and standards.

4.5.2. Are compatible and support Total Force objectives and requirements.

4.5.3. Enhance the readiness and capabilities of Reserve component units and personnel.

4.5.4. Promote the integration of Reserve components with Active component forces.

4.5.5. Make the most effective use of Reserve components within the Total Force.

4.6. Participate directly in planning, programming, budgeting, and execution activities that relate to assigned areas of responsibility.
4.7. Participate, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs (ASD(LA)), directly in legislative activities that relate to assigned areas of responsibility.

4.8. Promote, with respect to the Reserve components, coordination, cooperation, and mutual understanding within the Department of Defense and among the Department of Defense and other Federal Agencies, State and local governments, the civilian community at large, and the employers of Reserve component personnel.

4.9. Promote family support plans, policies, and programs in line with the Reserve component mission.

4.10. Serve on boards, committees, and other groups pertaining to assigned functional areas and represent the Secretary of Defense on Reserve component matters outside the Department.

4.11. Promote coordination, cooperation, and mutual understanding, consistent with section 10301 of Reference (a), with the Reserve Forces Policy Board (RFPB), and review reports of the RFPB as they are sent through the ASD(RA) to the USD(P&R) and the Secretary of Defense. Provide administrative support to the RFPB.

4.12. Coordinate on the professional staff actions of the RFPB, while carefully preserving the independent voice of the Board.

4.13. Perform such other duties as the USD(P&R) and the Secretary of Defense may prescribe.

5. RELATIONSHIPS

5.1. In the performance of assigned responsibilities and functions, the ASD(RA) shall:

5.1.1. Report directly to the USD(P&R) and the Principal Deputy USD(P&R).

5.1.2. Exercise authority, direction, and control over the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

5.1.3. Coordinate and communicate with the Military Departments, other OSD officials and the Heads of other DoD Components on matters pertaining to the National Guard and Reserve and their entities.

5.1.4. Use existing systems, facilities, and services of the Department of Defense or other Federal Agencies, when possible, to avoid duplication and to achieve maximum efficiency and economy.

5.2. The other OSD officials and the Heads of the DoD Components shall coordinate with the ASD(RA) on all matters related to the responsibilities and functions assigned in this Directive.

Change 1, 06/04/2008
6. **AUTHORITIES**

The ASD(RA) is hereby delegated authority to:

6.1. Act on behalf of the Secretary of Defense, in accordance with section 115 of Reference (a), regarding increasing the authorized end strength for Reserve personnel.

6.2. Issue DoD Instructions, DoD Publications, and one-time directive-type memorandums, consistent with DoD/5025.01-M (Reference (d)), which implement policies approved by the Secretary of Defense or the USD(P&R) in areas of assigned responsibilities and functions. Instructions to the Military Departments shall be issued through the Secretaries of the Military Departments. Instructions to the Commanders of the Combatant Commands normally shall be issued through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

6.3. Obtain reports and information, consistent with DoD Directive 8910.1 (Reference (e)), as necessary, in carrying out assigned responsibilities and functions.

6.4. Communicate with the Heads of the DoD Components, as necessary, to carry out assigned responsibilities and functions, including the transmission of requests for advice and assistance. Communications to the Military Departments shall be transmitted through the Secretaries of the Military Departments, their designees, or as otherwise provided in law or directed by the Secretary of Defense in other DoD issuances. Communications to the Commanders of the Combatant Commands normally shall be transmitted through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

6.5. Communicate with other Government officials, representatives of the Legislative Branch, members of the public, and representatives of foreign governments, as appropriate, in carrying out assigned responsibilities and functions. Communications with representatives of the Legislative Branch shall be coordinated with the ASD(LA) or the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Defense, as appropriate, and be consistent with the DoD Legislative Program.

7. **EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Directive is effective immediately.

\[Signature\]
David S. C. Chu
Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness