

DoD and OSD Component Heads

Who Are the DoD and OSD Component Heads and When Do They Coordinate?

This [issuance] applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint 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 (referred to collectively in this issuance as the “DoD Components”).

When you see this statement in a DoD issuance, who are the individuals concerned? Some of it is self explanatory, but there is confusion about the difference between OSD and DoD Components. Points to keep in mind when writing or revising a DoD issuance are:

- The OSD as a **whole** is considered a DoD Component. By law, the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense are the “head” of OSD. Therefore, if your issuance assigns responsibilities to “the DoD Component heads,” these responsibilities are only being assigned to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary.
- If your issuance assigns responsibilities to the “DoD Component heads,” then all the Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities must coordinate in addition to the Military Departments and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. How do they do that? Through the OSD Components under whose **authority, direction, and control** they are organized. These OSD Component heads must be selected on your DD Form 106 as coordinators.
- “Other organizational entities within the Department of Defense,” as defined in DoD Instruction 5025.01, includes the National Guard Bureau. If you’ve assigned responsibilities to the DoD Component heads, NGB must be at least a collateral coordinator on the DD Form 106.
- If you wish to assign responsibilities to the Under Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries of Defense, they must be cited as the “**OSD Component heads.**” If they have the same responsibilities as DoD Component heads, they can be combined in one section: “OSD and DoD Component heads.”

Defense Agencies	Under the authority, direction, and control of:
Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)	USD(AT&L), through the DDR&E
Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA)	USD(P&R)
Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA)	USD(C)/CFO
Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA)	USD(AT&L), through the ASD(A)
Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS)	USD(C)/CFO
Defense Health Agency (DHA)	USD(P&R), through the ASD(HA)
Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA)	DoD CIO
Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA)	USD(I)
Defense Legal Services Agency (DLSA)	GC DoD
Defense Logistics Agency (DLA)	USD(AT&L), through the ASD(L&MR)
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency	USD(P)
Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA)	USD(P)
Defense Security Service (DSS)	USD(I)

Defense Agencies	Under the authority, direction, and control of:
Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA)	USD(AT&L), through the ATSD(NCB)
Missile Defense Agency (MDA)	USD(AT&L)
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA)	USD(I)
National Reconnaissance Office (NRO)	USD(I)
National Security Agency/Central Security Service (NSA/CSS)	USD(I)
Pentagon Force Protection Agency (PFPA)	DCMO thru the Director of Administration

DoD Field Activities	Under the authority, direction, and control of:
Defense Media Activity (DMA)	ATSD(PA)
Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO)	USD(P)
Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC)	USD(AT&L), through the DDR&E
Defense Technology Security Administration (DTSA)	USD(P)
Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA)	USD(P&R)
Department of Defense Human Resources Activity (DoDHRA)	USD(P&R)
Department of Defense Test Resource Management Center (TRMC)	USD(AT&L)
Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA)	USD(AT&L), through the ASD(EI&E)
Washington Headquarters Services (WHS)	DCMO thru the Director of Administration

Key:

ASD(A)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Acquisition
ASD(EI&E)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment
ASD(HA)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs
ASD(L&MR)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Logistics and Materiel Readiness
DoD CIO	DoD Chief Information Officer
ATSD(PA)	Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs
ATSD(NCB)	Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs
DCMO	Deputy Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense
DDR&E	Director of Defense Research and Engineering
GC DoD	General Counsel of the Department of Defense
USD(AT&L)	Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics
USD(C)/CFO	Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense
USD(I)	Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence
USD(P)	Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
USD(P&R)	Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness