



SECRETARY OF WAR
1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

OCT 10 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DEPARTMENT OF WAR AGENCY AND DOW FIELD ACTIVITY
DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Department of War Secondary Titles

The ability to fight and win wars on behalf of our Nation, not just defend, is the core mission of the Department achieved by peace through strength by rebuilding America's military, re-establishing deterrence, and reviving the warrior ethos. President Trump, through Executive Order 14347, "Restoring the United States Department of War," September 5, 2025, authorized the use of secondary titles for those officials and organizations where the use of such title "does not create confusion with respect to legal, statutory, or international obligations." It is imperative that our senior leaders and Service members reinforce the warrior ethos by aligning their priorities, focus, and designations on our foundational purpose.

Therefore, effective immediately, those officials and organizations identified in the attachment will use the identified secondary titles for all official actions. All Department of War (DoW) Components will begin updating signage and references to those officials and organizations and provide costing data for these efforts to the Under Secretary of War (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer of the Department of War and the DoW Renaming Tiger Team (DoW TT). All efforts should be made to minimize disruptions and costs associated with these changes (e.g., retention of Common Access Cards until regular replacement, updates of references in policies and guidance to critical or urgent updates or wait until next regular general update). The DoW TT will provide transition guidance and milestones for conversion to the secondary titles to the DoW Components. Additionally, within 45 days, the DoW TT will provide recommended actions, for my review, that include an implementation plan and legislative proposal for the change to the Department of War in law.

No secondary titles, except for those identified in the attachment, are authorized at this time, to include those related to the Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities. The DoW TT will engage with appropriate Principal Staff Assistants and DoW Component heads to provide recommendations for any further changes to those organizations.

The point of contact for this action is Mr. Jeffrey Eanes, at jeffrey.w.eanes.civ@mail.mil or 703-692-3298.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Eanes", is written over the bottom right portion of the text.

Attachment:
As stated



OSD010837-25/CMD013815-25

ATTACHMENT
Department of War Secondary Titles

Positions with Statutory Titles	
Statutory Title	Secondary Title
Secretary of Defense	Secretary of War
Deputy Secretary of Defense	Deputy Secretary of War
Under Secretary of Defense (USD) for Research and Engineering	Under Secretary of War (USW) for Research and Engineering
USD for Acquisition and Sustainment	USW for Acquisition and Sustainment
USD for Policy	USW for Policy
USD (Comptroller)	USW (Comptroller)
USD for Personnel and Readiness	USW for Personnel and Readiness
USD for Intelligence and Security	USW for Intelligence and Security
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (DUSD) for Research and Engineering	Deputy Under Secretary of War (DUSW) for Research and Engineering
DUSD for Acquisition and Sustainment	DUSW for Acquisition and Sustainment
DUSD for Policy	DUSW for Policy
DUSD (Comptroller)	DUSW (Comptroller)
DUSD for Personnel and Readiness	DUSW for Personnel and Readiness
DUSD for Intelligence and Security	DUSW for Intelligence and Security
General Counsel of the DoD	General Counsel of the DoW
Chief Information Officer of the DoD	Chief Information Officer of the DoW
Assistant Secretary of Defense (ASD) for Legislative Affairs	Assistant Secretary of War (ASW) for Legislative Affairs
ASD for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict	ASW for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict
ASD for Nuclear Deterrence, Chemical, and Biological Defense Policy and Programs	ASW for Nuclear Deterrence, Chemical, and Biological Defense Policy and Programs
ASD for Space Policy	ASW for Space Policy
ASD for Industrial Base Policy	ASW for Industrial Base Policy
ASD for Energy, Installations, and Environment	ASW for Energy, Installations, and Environment
ASD for Cyber Policy	ASW for Cyber Policy
Organizations with Statutory Titles	
Statutory Title	Secondary Title
Department of Defense	Department of War
Office of the Secretary of Defense	Office of the Secretary of War
Statutory Positions with Discretionary Titles	
Official Title	Secondary Title
ASD for Acquisition	ASW for Acquisition
ASD for Critical Technologies	ASW for Critical Technologies

Statutory Positions with Discretionary Titles (cont.)	
Official Title	Secondary Title
ASD for Health Affairs	ASW for Health Affairs
ASD for Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs	ASW for Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs
ASD for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs	ASW for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs
ASD for International Security Affairs	ASW for International Security Affairs
ASD for Manpower and Reserve Affairs	ASW for Manpower and Reserve Affairs
ASD for Mission Capabilities	ASW for Mission Capabilities
ASD for Readiness	ASW for Readiness
ASD for Science and Technology	ASW for Science and Technology
ASD for Strategy, Plans, & Capabilities	ASW for Strategy, Plans, & Capabilities
ASD for Sustainment	ASW for Sustainment
Discretionary Positions*	
As Appropriate Title	Primary Title
Chief of Staff (CoS) to the Secretary of Defense	CoS to the Secretary of War
CoS to the Deputy Secretary of Defense	CoS to the Deputy Secretary of War
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs	Assistant to the Secretary of War for Public Affairs
Deputy CoS (DCoS) to the Secretary of Defense	DCoS to the Secretary of War
DCoS to the Deputy Secretary of Defense	DCoS to the Deputy Secretary of War
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (all)	Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of War (all)
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (all)	Deputy Assistant Secretary of War (all)

** When used in support of a function where a statutory position uses its official title, these officials may use the corresponding titles. Other non-statutory positions with "Secretary of Defense" in the title (e.g., Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Protocol) will use a title reflecting "Secretary of War" (e.g., Special Assistant to the Secretary of War for Protocol).*

Note: References to the related offices (e.g., Office of the Assistant Secretary of War) will be to the secondary titles or primary titles in the case of discretionary positions.