



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

Assistant Secretary's Order No. 3

Signature date:

Subject: Reorganization of the Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs

**Sec. 1 Purpose.** This order reorganizes the Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs to strengthen the management and administration of Indian Affairs' bureaus, offices, and programs. This realignment allows for better internal communication; improved delivery of services to Native American and Alaska Native individuals and tribes; and improved accountability to the Department of the Interior, the Executive Branch, and to Indian country.

**Sec. 2 Executive Realignment.** The Assistant Secretary is adding a Chief of Staff to consolidate legislative planning and congressional relations; public affairs; and legal and other matters pertinent to Indian Affairs (IA). The Chief of Staff will be responsible for the Office of Counsel, and realign the functions of the Office of External Affairs, formerly under the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary (PDAS); dividing External Affairs into the Office of Public Affairs and the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs to better support legislative planning and congressional liaison activities.

The Deputy Assistant Secretary-Policy and Economic Development (DAS-PED) will become the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary (PDAS), exercising the responsibilities of the Assistant Secretary for the regulation of Indian gaming; management of self-governance initiatives; and the management of federal recognition. In addition, the PDAS will add the Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action, to develop new and revised regulations to address statutory requirements; review notices and regulations for publication in the Federal Register; and manage the IA dispute resolution program and implementation of CORE PLUS. Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action will also assume the policy responsibilities of the Office of Planning and Policy Analysis (under the Deputy Assistant Secretary-Management (DAS-M)) to ensure compliance with 5 U.S.C.552 Administrative Procedure, the Privacy Act, and Paperwork Reduction Act; provide guidance and assistance for developing consistent policies and procedures; and publish and maintain the Indian Affairs Manual.

The new Deputy Assistant Secretary-Programs (DAS-PRO) will be responsible for facilities management, environmental and cultural resources; oversight of IA trust resources programs; assisting in the management, development and protection of Indian trust land and natural resource assets, including negotiation and settlement of Indian water rights issues; and expanding reservation business opportunities with emphasis on the development of energy and mineral resources on trust lands. The DAS-PRO will consolidate the responsibilities and functions of the Office of Indian Energy and Economic

Development (formerly under the DAS-PED), and the Office of Facilities, Environmental, and Cultural Resources (formerly under the DAS-M), and add the Office of Trust Policy and Rights Protection to oversee IA trust resources programs; assist tribes in the management, development and protection of Indian trust land and natural resource assets; and provide for meaningful trust reform benefiting tribes and individual Indian account holders.

The Deputy Assistant Secretary-Management will continue to provide executive leadership and direction to Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO), the Office of Human Capital Management, and the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO). The DAS-M will consolidate the functions of the Office of Planning and Performance Management (formerly the Office of Planning and Policy Analysis) and the Office of Internal Evaluation and Assessment under the OCFO, and will add the Office of Program Management under OCIO to more effectively execute well-planned, requirements-driven, risk-managed projects that control schedule, cost, and scope.

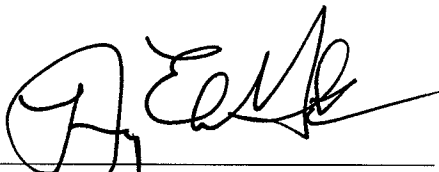
The Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs (130 DM 3) and the Director, Bureau of Indian Education (130 DM 8) will now report directly to the Assistant Secretary (formerly through the PDAS). In addition, the Director, BIA will be responsible for homeland security activities, including continuity of operations, emergency planning, and physical security policy. The Office of Homeland Security, formerly under the DAS-M, will be realigned to the Director, BIA. The BIE will continue to share management support services with the BIA to meet the high standards of performance in the delivery of services.

**Sec. 3 Implementation.** The Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs is responsible for implementing this Order, including the appropriate communications and any transfer of personnel, funds, programs, records, and property.

**Sec. 4 Impact.** There will be no change to the whole of the organization other than to the reporting structure, and current budget resources will not be adversely impacted. There will be no impact to staffing levels or any adverse impact on employees by implementation of this realignment of the organization. This Order is necessary to effect the reassignment of non-Indian staff members who occupy positions in the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Offices of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs (AS-IA), including the Office of Trust Services, the Office of Homeland Security, and the Office of Planning and Policy Analysis. Under the Indian Preference law, IA has no current authority to reassign non-Indians into new Offices without the approved change in the organization.

**Sec. 5 Expiration Date.** This Order is effective immediately. Its provisions remain in effect until it is incorporated into the Departmental Manual.

Date: SEP 11 2009



Larry Echo Hawk  
Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs