

Department of the Interior Departmental Manual

Effective Date: 05/01/15

Series: Organization

Part 130: Bureau of Indian Affairs

Chapter 6: Office of the Deputy Bureau Director - Field Operations

Originating Office: Bureau of Indian Affairs

130 DM 6

6.1 Office of the Deputy Bureau Director - Field Operations. The Deputy Bureau Director - Field Operations, reports to the Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and provides direction to regional offices, agencies, and field offices. (See locations in 130 DM 12)

6.2 Responsibilities. The Deputy Bureau Director - Field Operations is responsible for:

- A. Monitoring and evaluating the performance of the regional and field offices.
- B. Conducting periodic/specific program reviews of field operations.
- C. Providing specialized and programmatic technical assistance to field offices and tribes.

6.3 Organization and Functions. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) field organizations include regional offices, agencies, and field offices.

A. Regional Offices. Each Regional Office is headed by a Regional Director who reports to the Deputy Bureau Director - Field Operations. Each Regional Director is responsible for all Bureau activities, within a defined geographical area, except education and law enforcement. A typical regional office includes staff specialists in several or all Bureau program areas including tribal government, human services, community development, natural resources, forestry and fire; irrigation and safety of dams; real estate services; and operational responsibilities for field administrative activities that include acquisitions, budget management, facilities management, financial management, property management, and safety management (specifically the execution of established policies, procedures, and standards related to occupational safety, occupational health and industrial hygiene, public safety (non-law enforcement) and workers' compensation). Within the regional boundaries, regional directors are responsible for representing the Bureau in interactions with tribal, state, and local governments, other Federal agencies, and the public; directing and assisting in the application and implementation of overall policies and programs by agency and field offices; providing technical advice and review, evaluating performance, and coordinating those features of Bureau programs that extend beyond the jurisdiction of a single agency. Generally, each regional office

includes a Deputy Regional Director - Trust Services and Deputy Regional Director - Indian Services.

(1) The Deputy Regional Director - Trust Services oversees staff specialists responsible for natural resources (water resources; farm, pasture, and range; fish and wildlife and parks); forestry and fire; irrigation and safety of dams; energy and mineral resources; and real estate services (land acquisition and disposal, land title records, probate, rights-of-way, and leases/permits).

(2) The Deputy Regional Director - Indian Services oversees a staff of specialists responsible for transportation (planning and design, construction, and maintenance); workforce planning; capital investment; economic development; and tribal services (tribal governments, human services, and housing).

B. Agencies. Each Agency is headed by a Superintendent who reports to a Regional Director. The Agency Superintendent generally works with the program Deputy Regional Director and is assisted by two Deputy Agency Superintendents. The Deputy Agency Superintendents, assisted by one or more specialists, direct and supervise the operation of programs administered by the BIA and monitor, support, and provide technical assistance to the tribal governments when an agency program or programs are administered under self-determination awards. Agencies are also responsible for direct program services on one or more reservations and/or within a federally recognized tribe's administrative jurisdiction. Within its geographic jurisdiction, the agency represents the BIA in interactions with local tribal governing bodies, municipal and county governments, other Federal agencies, and with the general public.

(1) The Deputy Agency Superintendent - Indian Services is typically responsible for at least two program areas on one or more reservations, i.e., activities include but are not limited to roads and tribal operations. The Deputy Agency Superintendent is assisted by one or more specialists and is responsible for directing and supervising program operations administered by the BIA, and monitoring, supporting, and providing technical assistance to the tribal governments when an agency program or programs are administered under self-determination awards.

(2) The Deputy Agency Superintendent - Trust Services is typically responsible for natural resources, forestry/fire, and real estate services including land consolidation and probates.

C. Field Offices. Each Field Office is headed by Field Representative who performs the same duties as an Agency Superintendent. Each Field Representative reports to a Regional Director.