



DoD DIRECTIVE 5105.02

DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Originating Component: Office of the Performance Improvement Officer and Director of Administration and Management

Effective: March 20, 2025

Releasability: Cleared for public release. Available on the Directives Division Website at <https://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/>.

Reissues and Cancels: DoD Directive 5105.02, "Deputy Secretary of Defense," February 11, 2021

Approved by: Pete Hegseth, Secretary of Defense

Purpose: This issuance prescribes the responsibilities of the Deputy Secretary of Defense, in accordance with the authorities in Titles 5, 10, and 31, United States Code.

SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION

APPLICABILITY. 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 Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD.

SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS

The Deputy Secretary of Defense:

a. In accordance with the authorities contained in Titles 5, 10, and 31, United States Code, and except as expressly prohibited by law, Deputy Secretary of Defense Stephen Feinberg has full power and authority to act for the Secretary of Defense and to exercise the powers of the Secretary of Defense upon any and all matters the Secretary of Defense is authorized to act pursuant to law. Included, without limitation, in these authorities is serving as the Chief Operating Officer of the Department of Defense, who will:

(1) Ensure Department-wide capability and resources across all functions to carry out the strategic plan of the DoD in support of national security objectives.

(2) Serve as the accountable official for DoD management and performance, pursuant to Section 1123 of Title 31, United States Code.

(3) Develop and maintain a strategic plan or equivalent, pursuant to Section 306 of Title 5, United States Code.

b. The all-inclusive authority reflected in Paragraph 2.a., may not be further delegated in its entirety; however, the Deputy Secretary of Defense is authorized, except where otherwise prohibited, to make specific written delegations.

REFERENCES

United States Code, Title 5
United States Code, Title 10
United States Code, Title 31