



## DoD DIRECTIVE 5105.89

### CHIEF DIGITAL AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

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

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**Incorporates and Cancels:** See Paragraph 1.2.

**Approved by:** Kathleen H. Hicks, Deputy Secretary of Defense

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**Purpose:** This issuance establishes the responsibilities and functions, relationships, and authorities of the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Officer (CDAO) pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense by Section 113 of Title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.).

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## SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION

### 1.1. APPLICABILITY.

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

### 1.2. INCORPORATED AND CANCELED DOCUMENTS.

This issuance incorporates and cancels:

- a. Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandums:
  - (1) “Establishment of the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer,” December 8, 2021
  - (2) “Establishment of the Joint Artificial Intelligence Center,” June 27, 2018
  - (3) “Initial Operating Capability of the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer,” February 1, 2022
  - (4) “Role Clarity for the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer,” February 1, 2022
- b. DoD Directive 5105.87, “Director, Defense Digital Service (DDS),” January 5, 2017, as amended

## SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS

The CDAO is the Principal Staff Assistant (PSA) and advisor to the Secretary of Defense for all matters relating to DoD adoption and integration of data, analytics, and AI capabilities to generate competitive advantage. The CDAO is the senior official with primary policy oversight responsibility for the development and deployment of algorithmic warfare and modernization efforts around data, analytics, and AI. In the exercise of assigned responsibilities, the CDAO:

- a. Serves as DoD's principal officer responsible for accelerating the adoption of data, analytics, and AI capabilities, as well as other relevant digital technologies, to generate competitive advantage across the defense enterprise; developing data, analytics, and AI strategic guidance and formulating related policy; creating enabling digital services which consist of the iterative development and delivery of digital assets (e.g., code, data, content), software (e.g., code, application programming interfaces, applications), and services (e.g., technical guidance, training, best practices) that support DoD Components' development and deployment of data, analytics, and AI solutions; and ensuring unity of mission and tighter integration for DoD enterprise-wide digital, data, analytics, and AI organizations.
- b. Serves as DoD's Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer (CAIO) pursuant to Executive Order 14110, exercising the full range of authorities and responsibilities assigned to the CAIO and other applicable Presidential policies and guidance.
- c. Serves as the Senior Official with Principal Responsibility for AI and Machine Learning, and exercises all associated responsibilities and functions, including the coordination of activities relating to the development and demonstration of AI and machine learning for the DoD.
- d. Serves as the Chief Data Officer for DoD pursuant to Section 3520 of Title 44, U.S.C and Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M-19-23.
- e. Identifies, accesses, shares, and appropriately reuses DoD data and models of defense components and elements to build and maintain AI capabilities to support DoD missions and activities.
- f. Leverages and enables new and novel approaches to remove outdated and counterproductive barriers to data and AI adoption within appropriate DoD institutional processes, in coordination with other senior officials of the DoD.
- g. Supports and assists DoD Components in the development and deployment of data, analytics, and AI capabilities by identifying, supporting, and accelerating the use of infrastructure, platforms, tools, and services.
- h. Develops an overarching framework and standards for development, delivery, and adoption of data, analytics, and AI capabilities.
- i. Vets, selects, and sponsors data services, analytic capabilities, and AI-enabled solutions, based on quantitative and qualitative metrics, to service common concerns for the DoD for scaled application in support of enterprise and joint use cases. Selectively scales proven data,

analytics, and AI-enabled solutions for enterprise and joint use cases in coordination with decision-makers at all levels of the DoD.

j. Facilitates and, where possible, provides surged digital services that enable data, analytics, and AI solutions either from resources of the Office of the CDAO (OCDAO) or through coordination among DoD Components for rapid response to crises and emergent challenges.

k. Develops, publishes, and oversees the use of a DoD federated data catalog and common data models, and provides the official source of executive analytics for Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense enterprise-wide reporting, as well as reporting for other senior leaders, as determined to be appropriate and feasible by the CDAO.

l. Promotes enterprise alignment among disparate data sources and data domains through policy oversight of data management practices.

m. Leads the development and implementation of AI assurance strategy, guidance, and policy, including the application of DoD's AI Ethical Principles in the February 21, 2020 Secretary of Defense Memorandum and responsible AI practices.

n. Develops methodologies, tools, and best practices to advance the DoD's capability and capacity to appropriately test and evaluate AI and AI-enabled capabilities.

o. In coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USD(R&E)), provides guidance and assistance for integrating AI into system engineering policies and procedures.

p. In coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)), provides guidance and assistance for integrating AI into policies and practices related to modern acquisition, contracting, and intellectual property.

q. In coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security (USD(I&S)) and the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency (ATSD(PCLT)), authorizes Defense Intelligence Components to provide data services, analytic capabilities, and AI-enabled solutions in support of enterprise and joint use cases.

r. In coordination with the USD(I&S), engages with elements of the Intelligence Community and provides advice to senior leaders with regard to those policies and functions of the USD(I&S) associated with data, analytics, and AI.

s. Advises PSAs and DoD Component heads on the acquisition and use of data, analytics, visualizations, and tools to support capability portfolio management (CPM), including:

(1) Participates in appropriate CPM forums to ensure that enabling data and analytics align with DoD data and analytics strategies, policies, and investment planning and integrate across joint capability areas accordingly.

(2) Coordinates with other PSAs and DoD Component heads, as appropriate, to develop, document, and manage authoritative data, including the standardization of data format, sharing of data assets, and publication of data assets, data models, and data rights to support CPM. Ensures transparency, availability, and applicability of data, data models, and visualization of data pursuant to all relevant law and policy.

(3) Develops and maintains CPM metric visualizations and tools, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense, the USD(A&S), and the USD(R&E), leveraging data automation, and digital engineering pursuant to the DoD Digital Engineering Strategy to the maximum extent possible.

t. Participates in functional capabilities boards on joint capability development when capabilities have an AI component, as part of the Joint Requirements Oversight Council support to the CJCS.

u. Serves as an advisor to the Joint Requirements Oversight Council.

v. Carries out activities to develop, distribute, and support AI capabilities across the DoD.

w. Establishes and chairs the CDAO Council to oversee enterprise data governance and data quality, and resolve issues related to the adoption and use of data, analytics, and AI capabilities. Communicates and coordinates with other governance forums and officials, including those in the Intelligence Community, as needed to address shared equities or potential conflicts.

x. In coordination with the Secretaries of the Military Departments and the Combatant Commanders:

(1) Conducts synchronized demonstrations of data, analytics, and AI capabilities to measure, assess, and drive progress in support of initiatives to address national defense strategy key operational problems and the joint warfighting concept.

(2) Establishes best practices, processes, and methodologies, and develops related policies, to sanitize data for algorithm development, training, and deployment.

y. Informs the DoD CIO's certification of DoD Component information technology budgets with reference to data, analytics, and AI technologies.

z. Informs the DoD CIO on the unique security measures required to assess and authorize data, analytics, and AI capabilities.

aa. Coordinates with the DoD CIO on the development, implementation and oversight of data policies that affect DoD information, records, and related policies for which the CIO has responsibility, consistent with DoD Directive (DoDD) 5144.02.

ab. In coordination with the USD(A&S), the USD(R&E), the DoD CIO, the Director of the Defense Innovation Unit, and other senior officials, engages with industry on data, analytics, and AI, and advises the DoD on how to maintain a healthy industrial base to deliver data, analytics, and AI capabilities.

ac. In coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, leads international engagements to enable AI readiness, responsibly leverage data, comport with data sharing requests and requirements, and adopt responsible AI capabilities at speed and scale.

ad. Supports the identification and assessment of data, analytics, and AI capabilities that are eligible for foreign military sales.

ae. Serves as the functional community manager for the data, analytics, and AI community, carrying out functional community manager responsibilities in accordance with Volume 250 of DoD Instruction (DoDI) 1400.25.

af. Synchronizes communication strategies with the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs and obtains release authority for all public affairs activities concerning matters under the purview of the CDAO and related communication directed at members of the public and news media entities such as media engagements and press releases, as well as social media and public web content strategies in accordance with DoDD 5122.05, DoDI 5400.13, DoDI 5400.17, DoDI 5405.03, and DoDI 5410.19.

ag. In coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, serves as the DoD coordinator for the development and sustainment of the DoD data, analytics, and AI workforce. Develops and provides implementation guidance to DoD Components on digital education and relevant talent management strategies.

ah. Supports projects or programs that materially improve digital services that enable data, analytics, and AI solutions through the maintenance of a cadre of commercially experienced digital services experts internally within the OCDAO. Additionally:

(1) Provides resources from the OCDAO cadre of experts, when available, or seeks personnel from other PSAs and DoD Components to support the completion of projects identified by the CDAO to be a priority.

(2) Determines the scope of activities for specific projects or programs in support of the DoD digital services that enable data, analytics, and AI solutions.

(3) Identifies and advocates for novel solutions and innovations in the way the DoD builds, buys, and deploys digital services and supporting technologies.

(4) Identifies and advocates for best-in-class private sector practices, talent, and technology to be applied to DoD problems, as appropriate.

ai. In coordination with the ATSD(PCLT), ensures proper consideration of privacy, civil liberties, and transparency for matters under the purview of the CDAO, including appropriate safeguarding of data containing personally identifiable information.

aj. Utilizes special hiring authorities as available, through appropriate human resources support organizations, including the Cyber Excepted Service pursuant to Section 1599f of Title 5, U.S.C.

ak. Serves as advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness and appropriate DoD Component heads and officials regarding the employment of highly qualified experts pursuant to Section 9903 of Title 5, U.S.C., in occupational fields related to data, analytics, and AI.

al. Assesses the DoD Executive Agent assignments under the cognizance of the CDAO periodically for continued need, currency, and effectiveness and efficiency in satisfying end-user requirements, in accordance with DoDD 5101.01.

am. Uses existing systems, facilities, and services of DoD and other Federal departments and agencies, when possible, to avoid duplication and achieve maximum efficiency and economy.

an. In coordination with the USD(I&S), exercises authority and responsibility for disclosing and releasing AI-related classified military information pursuant to AI-related classified military information in accordance with reporting obligations imposed by Executive Orders and other Presidential policies and guidance.

ao. Performs such other duties as the Secretary of Defense may prescribe.



## SECTION 3: RELATIONSHIPS

### 3.1. CDAO.

In performing assigned responsibilities and functions, the CDAO:

- a. Reports directly to the Secretary of Defense.
- b. Exercises authority, direction, and control over:

- (1) The Principal Deputy CDAO.

- (2) The CDAO Senior Acquisition Executive responsible for those programmatic and acquisition activities identified by the CDAO pursuant to Section 808 of Public Law 116-283, also known as the “William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021”.

- (3) Such other positions and organizations as may be established by the CDAO consistent with applicable law and policies, using resources provided by the Secretary of Defense.

- c. Coordinates and exchanges information with other OSD officials, the DoD Component heads, and Federal, State, or local officials having collateral or related functions.

### 3.2. PSAS AND DOD COMPONENT HEADS.

The PSAs and DoD Component heads coordinate with the CDAO on all matters under their purview related to the responsibilities, functions, and authorities assigned to the CDAO in this issuance.

## SECTION 4: AUTHORITIES

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense, and subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense, and in accordance with DoD policies and issuances, the CDAO is hereby delegated authority to exercise, within its area of assigned responsibilities and functions, all authority of the Secretary of Defense derived from statute, Executive order (E.O.), or interagency agreement, except where specifically limited by statute or E.O. to the Secretary of Defense. The CDAO is specifically delegated authority to:

a. Establish DoD policy through DoDIs, directive-type memorandums (DTMs), and rules published in the Federal Register, within the authorities and responsibilities assigned in this issuance and in accordance with DoDI 5025.01 or Administrative Instruction 102.

(1) In those documents, assign responsibilities related to the authorities and responsibilities in this issuance to other PSAs and DoD Component heads. Assignment of responsibilities in DoD issuances or rules published in the Federal Register to Military Department officials must be made through the Secretaries of those Departments. DoD issuances or rules published in the Federal Register assigning responsibilities to the Combatant Commanders must be coordinated with the CJCS.

(2) DoDIs and DTMs must be fully coordinated in accordance with DoDI 5025.01. Rules published in the Federal Register must be fully coordinated with impacted OSD and DoD Component heads and be in accordance with Administrative Instruction 102.

(3) This authority may not be redelegated.

b. Approve other DoDIs, DoD manuals, and DTMs in areas of assigned responsibilities and functions that implement policy already established by a DoDD, DoDI, DTM, or policy memorandum issued by the Secretary of Defense or Deputy Secretary of Defense.

(1) In these documents, assign responsibilities related to the authorities and responsibilities in this issuance to other PSAs and the DoD Component heads. Assignment of responsibilities in these DoD issuances to Military Department officials must be made through the Secretaries of those Departments. DoD issuances assigning responsibilities to the Combatant Commands must be coordinated with the CJCS.

(2) Such documents must be fully coordinated in accordance with DoDI 5025.01.

(3) This authority may only be further delegated to officials as specified in DoDI 5025.01.

c. Approve the Federal Register publication of documents that are not rules or significant guidance documents, e.g., notices, orders, or non-significant guidance documents as defined by E.O. 13891 and determined by the Office of Management and Budget, in accordance with Administrative Instruction 102. Unless otherwise restricted by law, this authority may be further delegated only in writing to subordinate officials at or above the level of a general officer/flag officer, Senior Executive Service member, or equivalent.

- d. Communicate directly with other PSAs and the DoD Component heads, as necessary, to carry out assigned responsibilities and functions, including transmitting requests for advice and assistance. Communications to the Military Departments must be transmitted through the Secretaries of the Military Departments or as otherwise provided in law or directed by the Secretary of Defense in other DoD issuances. Communications to the Combatant Commanders must be in accordance with DoDD 5100.01.
- e. Communicate with other government officials, members of the public, and representatives of foreign governments, as appropriate, in carrying out assigned responsibilities and functions. Communications with representatives and members of the Legislative Branch must be conducted through the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs, except for communications with the defense appropriations committees, which must be coordinated with the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense.
- f. Communicate with agencies of the Executive Branch and Congress on special access programs. For all special access program matters, the CDAO must conduct communications with agencies of the Executive Branch and Congress in accordance with DoDD 5205.07.
- g. Obtain reports and information, in accordance with DoDI 8910.01, as necessary, to carry out assigned responsibilities and functions.
- h. Establish arrangements for DoD participation in non-DoD governmental programs for which the CDAO is assigned primary DoD responsibility.
- i. Enter into support agreements and other types of memoranda of agreements or memoranda of understanding, in accordance with DoDI 4000.19, the February 13, 2020 Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, or other applicable DoD policy, as required for the effective performance of responsibilities and functions assigned to the CDAO.
- j. Exercise the functions of a head of agency with respect to appropriate acquisition activities pursuant to Section 808 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021.
- k. Acts as an original classification authority for matters pertaining to assigned responsibilities and functions up to Top Secret information, in accordance with E.O. 13526, E.O. 14110, and other applicable Presidential policies and guidance. This authority may not be redelegated.

## GLOSSARY

<b>ACRONYM</b>	<b>MEANING</b>
AI	artificial intelligence
CDAO	Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer
CJCS	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
CPM	capability portfolio management
DoD CIO	Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense
DoDD	DoD directive
DoDI	DoD instruction
DTM	directive-type memorandum
E.O.	Executive order
OCDAO	Office of the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer
PSA	Principal Staff Assistant
U.S.C.	United States Code
USD(A&S)	Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment
USD(I&S)	Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security
USD(R&E)	Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering

## REFERENCES

- Administrative Instruction 102, “Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Federal Register (FR) System,” November 6, 2006, as amended
- Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Delegation of Authority for OSD Component Heads to Enter into Support Agreements,” February 13, 2020
- DoD Directive 5100.01, “Functions of the Department of Defense and Its Major Components,” December 21, 2010, as amended
- DoD Directive 5101.01, “DoD Executive Agent,” February 7, 2022
- DoD Directive 5122.05, “Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (ATSD(PA)),” August 7, 2017
- DoD Directive 5144.02, “DoD Chief Information Officer (DoD CIO),” November 21, 2014, as amended
- DoD Directive 5205.07, “Special Access Program (SAP) Policy,” September 12, 2024
- DoD Instruction 1400.25, Volume 250, “DoD Civilian Personnel Management System: Civilian Strategic Human Capital Planning (SHCP),” June 7, 2016
- DoD Instruction 4000.19, “Support Agreements,” December 16, 2020
- DoD Instruction 5025.01, “DoD Issuances Program,” August 1, 2016, as amended
- DoD Instruction 5400.13, “Public Affairs (PA) Operations,” October 15, 2008
- DoD Instruction 5400.17, “Official Use of Social Media for Public Affairs Purposes,” August 12, 2022, as amended
- DoD Instruction 5405.03, “Development, Submission, and Approval of Proposed Public Affairs Guidance (PPAG),” February 18, 2016
- DoD Instruction 5410.19, “Community Outreach Activities,” September 29, 2021
- DoD Instruction 8910.01, “DoD Implementation of the Paperwork Reduction Act,” December 5, 2022
- Executive Order 13526, “Classified National Security Information,” December 29, 2009, as amended
- Executive Order 13891, “Promoting the Rule of Law Through Improved Agency Guidance Documents,” October 9, 2019
- Executive Order 14110, “Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence,” October 30, 2023
- Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M-19-23, “Phase 1 Implementation of the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018: Learning Agendas, Personnel, and Planning Guidance,” July 10, 2019
- Public Law 116-283, “William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021,” January 1, 2021
- Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Artificial Intelligence Ethical Principles for the Department of Defense,” February 21, 2020
- United States Code, Title 5
- United States Code, Title 10, Section 113

United States Code, Title 44, Section 3520