SUBCHAPTER R—ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTERS

PART 344—ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR RESERVE AFFAIRS (ASD(RA))

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§ 344.1 Purpose.
Under the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense by 10 U.S.C. 113 and 138, this part updates the responsibilities, functions, relationships, and authorities of the ASD(RA), as prescribed herein.

§ 344.2 Applicability.
This part applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Unified Combatant Commands, the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, and the DoD Field Activities (hereafter referred to collectively as “the DoD Components”).

§ 344.3 Definitions.
(a) Reserve components. Refers collectively to the Army National Guard of the United States, Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Air National Guard of the United States, Air Force Reserve, and Coast Guard Reserve, when the Coast is operating as a Service of the Department of the Navy.
(b) Total force. The organizations, units, and individuals that comprise the Defense Department’s resources for meeting the national security strategy. It includes DoD Active and Reserve military personnel, military retired members, DoD civilian personnel (including foreign national direct- and indirect-hire, as well as non-appropriated fund employees), contractor staff, and host-nation support personnel.

§ 344.4 Responsibilities and functions.
The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs is the principal staff assistant and advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)) and the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense for Reserve component matters in the Department of Defense. The ASD(RA) is responsible for overall supervision of all Reserve component affairs in the Department of Defense. In this capacity, the ASD(RA) shall:
(a) Develop policies, conduct analyses, provide advice, and make recommendations to the USD(P&R) and the Secretary of Defense, and issue guidance to the DoD Components on matters pertaining to the Reserve components.
(b) Develop systems and standards for the administration and management of approved DoD Reserve component plans and programs.
(c) Develop and promulgate plans, programs, actions, and taskings to ensure adherence to DoD policies and national security objectives to promote the effective integration of Reserve component capabilities into a cohesive total force.
(d) Review and evaluate programs of the DoD Components that impact on the reserve components; monitor the activities of reserve component organizations, training facilities, and associations; and undertake other management oversight activities as may be required to ensure that policies, plans, programs, and actions pertaining to the reserve components:
(1) Adhere to approved DoD policies and standards.
(2) Are compatible and support total force objectives and requirements.
(3) Enhance the readiness and capabilities of reserve component units and personnel.
(4) Promote the integration of reserve components with active duty forces.
(5) Make the most effective use of reserve components within the total force.
§ 344.5 Relationships.

(e) Participate in planning, programming, and budgeting activities that relate to assigned areas of responsibility.

(f) Promote, with respect to the reserve components, coordination, cooperation, and mutual understanding within the Department of Defense and among the Department of Defense and other federal agencies, state and local governments, the civilian community at large, and the employers of Reserve component personnel.

(g) Promote family support plans, policies, and programs in line with the Reserve Force Policy Board (RFPB) and review reports of the RFPB prior to forwarding to the USD(P&R) and the Secretary of Defense. Provide administrative staff support to the RFPB.

(h) Serve on boards, committees, and other groups pertaining to assigned functional areas and represent the Secretary of Defense on reserve component matters outside the Department.

(i) Consistent with 10 U.S.C. 675, coordinate issues and positions of the RFPB prior to forwarding to the USD(P&R) and the Secretary of Defense. Provide administrative staff support to the RFPB.

(j) Serve as the vice chairman of the Conventional Forces Readiness Committee.

(k) Perform such other functions as the USD(P&R) and the Secretary of Defense may prescribe.

§ 344.6 Authorities.

The ASD(RA) is hereby delegated authority to:

(a) Act for the Secretary of Defense, in accordance with section 411 of Pub. L. 103–160 and future authorization acts that contain this provision, to increase the authorized end strength for Reserve personnel by not more than 2 percent of the prescribed Reserve personnel end strength, or such other percentage as shall be authorized by statute, when the increase is in the national interest.

(b) Issue DoD Instructions, DoD publications, and one-time directive-type memoranda, consistent with DoD 5025.1-M, that implement policies approved by the Secretary of Defense in assigned fields of responsibility. Instructions to the Military Departments shall be issued through the Secretaries of those Departments. Instructions to the Commanders of the Unified Combatant Commands shall be communicated through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

(c) Obtain reports, information, advice, and assistance, consistent with DoD Directive 8910.1, as necessary, to carry out assigned functions.

(d) Communicate directly with Heads of the DoD Components. Communications to the Unified Combatant Commands shall be transmitted through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

(e) Communicate with other Government officials, representatives of the legislative branch, members of the public, and representatives of foreign governments, as appropriate, in carrying out assigned functions.