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Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer Reaches Full Operating Capability

Arlington, VA – The Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer (CDAO) reached Full Operating Capability (FOC) today. The CDAO was originally established in January 2022 and reached Initial Operating Capability (IOC) on February 1, 2022. The Office of the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer (OCDAO) is a Principal Staff Assistant (PSA) level organization with direct reporting to Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen Hicks.

The CDAO has responsibility for leading and overseeing DoD's strategy development and policy formulation for data, analytics, and AI; breaking down barriers to data and AI adoption within appropriate DoD institutional processes; and creating enabling digital infrastructure and services that support Components' development and deployment of data, analytics, AI, and digital-enabled solutions. Moreover, CDAO will selectively scale proven digital and Al-enabled solutions for enterprise and joint use cases as well as surge digital services for rapid response to crises and emergent challenges.

"I am so proud of what the CDAO team has accomplished in less than 6 months since IOC. In CDAO, we have brought together data strategy and policy, with hands on implementation, and the barrier removal power of a PSA to apply lessons DoD has learned over the last several years, and build upon them with greater scale and momentum," said Deputy CDAO Margaret Palmieri.

Following a multi-step process from IOC to FOC the CDAO has fully merged and integrated the former component organizations of Advana, Chief Data Officer, Defense Digital Service, and Joint Artificial Intelligence Center. Legacy component names will no longer be recognized or used unless attributed to a product or capability specific to the Department. The CDAO is targeting October 1, 2022 for the full administrative alignment of personnel and resources.

The CDAO leadership:
• CDAO – Dr. Craig Martell
• Deputy CDAO – Ms. Margaret Palmieri
• DCDAO for Acquisition – Ms. Sharothi Pikar
• DCDAO for Policy, Strategy & Governance – Dr. Clark Cully
• DCDAO for Enterprise Platforms and Business Optimization – Mr. Greg Little
• DCDAO for Algorithmic Warfare – Mr. Joe Larson
• DCDAO for Digital Services – Ms. Katie (Olson) Savage
• Chief Operating Officer – Mr. Dan Folliard
• Chief Technology Officer – Dr. Bill Streilein
• Chief of AI Assurance – Dr. Jane Pinelis

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