

BY ORDER OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

HAF MISSION DIRECTIVE 1-50

23 APRIL 2015



*The Air Force Chief Scientist*

### COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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### SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This publication has been revised to reflect authorizer, certifier and formatting changes.

**1. Mission.** The Chief Scientist of the Air Force (AF/ST), pursuant to 10 USC §§ 8031-8038, and as authorized by paragraph 4.3 of AFMD 1, *Headquarters Air Force*, and this Headquarters Air Force (HAF) Mission Directive, assists the Secretary of the Air Force, other Secretariat offices, and the Chief of Staff as the principal scientific advisor for the Department of the Air Force. The Secretary of the Air Force retains ultimate responsibility for all policies related to the Department of the Air Force. Within his/her areas of responsibility, the AF/ST prepares policies for approval and issues official guidance/procedures to ensure implementation of those policies. The AF/ST also assists the Chief of Staff of the Air Force in his/her role, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 151, as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS).

**2. Organizational Relationships.** The Secretary of the Air Force is responsible for, and has all legal authority necessary to conduct, the affairs of the Department of the Air Force. The Secretariat, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and Air Staff offices perform their Department of the Air Force functions subject to the authority, direction and control of the Secretary of the Air Force.

2.1. The AF/ST reports directly to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, but provides support to the Secretary of the Air Force, the Under Secretary of the Air Force, other Secretariat offices, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and other Air Staff offices. The Secretary of the Air Force may re-delegate authority/assign responsibility to the AF/ST, but the Secretary of the Air Force, through the Chief of Staff of the Air Force and, as appropriate, Assistant Secretaries of the Air Force, retains ultimate responsibility for all matters affecting the Department of the Air Force's science policies and programs, which AF/ST advises upon.

2.2. The AF/ST is part of the Air Staff and as such works closely with other HAF offices to assist the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief of Staff in carrying out his or her responsibilities. The AF/ST works in cooperation with the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, and his/her respective offices, which are responsible, pursuant to Chapters 803 and 805 of Title 10 (10 USC §§ 8013-8023 and §§ 8031-8038), for assisting the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief of Staff in carrying out his or her responsibilities.

2.2.1. Pursuant to Headquarters Operating Instruction (HOI) 90-1, *Headquarters Air Force Mission Directive – Delegations of Authority and Assignment of Responsibilities* two or more HAF two-letter/digit organizations with responsibilities in the same functional area are encouraged to develop "standard operating procedures (SOPs)" that set forth procedures enabling covered organizations to fulfill and carry out their respective missions, roles, and responsibilities. There are no SOPs entered into at this time.

2.3. There are no Field Operating Agencies reporting to the AF/ST.

**3. Responsibilities.** The Air Force Chief Scientist is specifically responsible for:

3.1. Advising the Chief of Staff and Secretary of the Air Force, providing independent evaluations and objective advice across a broad range of subjects. Advice is based primarily on technical merit. Subjects are derived from:

3.1.1. Tasks assigned by the Chief of Staff or Secretary of the Air Force.

3.1.2. Technical issues determined by the AF/ST to be of Air Force-wide importance.

3.2. Advising senior leaders across the Air Force, as appropriate. The AF/ST interacts with organizations across the Air Force, the other Services, the Department of Defense, other U.S.G. Departments, Academia and the International Science and Technology (S&T) community to research technical issues. In doing so, he/she identifies and analyzes issues affecting various levels of the Air Force and brings them to the attention of Air Force leaders, as appropriate.

3.3. Guiding Air Force S&T leadership. The Chief Scientist serves as a focal point for Air Force S&T leader development and health:

3.3.1. Convening and chairing semi-annual (2 per year) meetings of Air Force S&T leadership to discuss Air Force-wide technical issues and affect cross flow between technical areas and the operational Air Force. Attendees include chief scientists and technical directors from laboratories, test centers, major commands, and others, as appropriate.

3.3.2. Serving on the Scientist and Engineer Advisory Council (SEAC), chaired by the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition) (SAF/AQ)), which oversees the health of science and engineering career fields across the Air Force.

3.3.3. Serving on the Scientist, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Advisory Council (STEMAC), chaired by the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition) (SAF/AQ)), which oversees the health of STEM workforce across the Air Force.

3.4. Serving as a member of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) Executive Committee. Participating in the definition of studies and selection of candidates for membership. Attending SAB meetings and other SAB functions as appropriate in coordination with the SAB Chair..

3.5. Sponsoring and administering Air Force-level Science and Technology award programs as outlined in AFI 36-2843, *Science and Technology Awards*.

3.6. Representing the Air Force technical community at DoD, interagency, international, and White House forums, as appropriate.

**4. Delegations of Authority/Assignments of Responsibility.** Attachment 1 lists delegated authorities and assigned responsibilities to the AF/ST. The authorities delegated/responsibilities assigned to the AF/ST by this HAF Mission Directive may generally be re-delegated unless re-delegation is expressly prohibited by the attached delegation or superseding law, regulation, or DoD issuance. While the AF/ST may re-delegate authorities to other Department of Air Force officials, he/she will ultimately be responsible to the Secretary of the Air Force for all matters listed in Paragraph 1 of this publication. Any re-delegation of authority/assignment of responsibility made shall not be effective unless it is in writing. Any person re-delegating authority in accordance with this HAF Mission Directive may further restrict or condition the authority/ responsibility being re-delegated/re-assigned.

Deborah L. James  
Secretary of the Air Force

Attachments:

1. Delegations of Authorities/Assignment of Responsibility for the AF/ST
2. Organizational Chart/Two-Letter Responsibilities

**ATTACHMENT 1****DELEGATIONS OF SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE AUTHORITY/ASSIGNMENT  
OF RESPONSIBILITY****TO THE****AIR FORCE CHIEF SCIENTIST**

A1.1. No delegations of Secretary of the Air Force authority or assignments of responsibility exist to the AF/ST at this time.

**ATTACHMENT 2**

**THE AIR FORCE CHIEF SCIENTIST  
(AF/ST)**

The Air Force Chief Scientist  
(AF/ST)

A1.1. The Air Force Chief Scientist. AF/ST serves as the principal scientific advisor to the Chief of Staff, Secretary of the Air Force and other Air Force leaders. He/she provides independent evaluations and objective advice across a broad range of S&T subjects, basing recommendations primarily on technical merit. The AF/ST reports directly to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force. The AF/ST has an O-6 Deputy/Military Assistant and they have an Administrative Assistant, with no subordinate structure.