

Attention NPAIHB Delegates and Chairs

-----Original Message-----

From: Roubideaux, Yvette (IHS/HQ)

Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 4:17 AM

To: IHS ALL

Subject: Message from the Director: Director, ODSCT

To: ALL IHS

I am pleased to announce the selection of CAPT Chris Buchanan as the Director of the Office of Direct Service and Contracting Tribes (ODSCT), Indian Health Service (IHS). CAPT Buchanan officially started in this position on February 28, 2013. He previously served as the Deputy Director of ODSCT.

CAPT Buchanan will be responsible for a wide range of agency functions critical to the working partnership between the IHS and 566 federally recognized Tribes. The ODSCT is the focal point for Title I, Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act activities and support for Direct Service Tribes. CAPT Buchanan will direct this national program with responsibilities including policy development concerning Title I Indian Self-Determination contracting and the integration of newly recognized Tribes into the IHS system. He will provide technical assistance to Tribes receiving healthcare directly from the IHS and provide oversight to ensure the Agency's requirement for Tribal consultation is met. His selection is notable because this is the first permanent selection for this position in the Agency's history.

CAPT Buchanan is an environmental health officer in the Commissioned Corps with over 20-years of active duty. He began his IHS career in 1993, serving in various environmental health officer positions in the Phoenix, Albuquerque, and Oklahoma City Areas. From 2005 through 2010, CAPT Buchanan held management positions in the Oklahoma City Area including serving as the hospital Administrative Officer, Lawton Indian Hospital and Chief Executive Officer, Haskell Health Center. In 2010, CAPT Buchanan served as the Administrative Officer of Clinical Services for the Chickasaw Nation's Division of Health in Ada, Oklahoma which consisted of a hospital, four satellite clinics and over 1,000 employees. In 2012, he was selected as the Deputy Director of ODSCT. CAPT Buchanan has served on several national IHS workgroups, has completed two fellowships, and has been deployed to several natural disaster events for the USPHS Commissioned Corps. He has been the recipient of several professional awards including the National Council of Chief Executive Officer's Rookie of the Year.

CAPT Buchanan was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in environmental health and a Master of Public Health degree in health policy and administration from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. He is an enrolled member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma and with his wife Leigh has three children Caleb, Connor, and Brooke Taylor.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Ms. Roselyn Tso, and thank her for serving as the Acting Director of the Office of the Direct Service and Contracting Tribes for the past 2 years. Her strong guidance, commitment to partnering with Tribal Leaders, and leadership are a reflection of her dedication to duty. I am also extremely grateful that Ms. Tso has agreed to continue as a member of our Contract Support Costs (CSC) headquarters team as we move forward. I welcome her assistance during this transition and appreciate her willingness to continue to serve the agency on this important issue.

Please join me in welcoming CAPT Buchanan as the Director of the Office of Direct Service and Contracting Tribes.

Yvette Roubideaux, M.D., M.P.H.
Director