
Ms. Denise M. Szelag



Deputy Director, Office of Civilian Human Resources (OCHR)

Ms. Szelag is the Deputy Director, Office of Civilian Human Resources. She assists the DASN (CHR) in accomplishing OCHR's broad mission, to include advice on matters pertaining to the development and execution of corporate plans and management, and exercises authority to speak for the DASN(CHR)/Director, OCHR, in all aspects of civilian human resources and in relationships with representatives of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), other Military Departments and Fourth Estate agencies, other Executive branch agencies, the Judicial branch, Congressional staff, and labor organizations, as appropriate. Ms. Szelag is responsible for ensuring alignment of objectives with Department of the Navy's (DON) near-term and long-term requirements and demonstrating exemplary performance in fostering a unified organizational climate that sustains excellence, accepts risk, and produces innovative results founded upon diversity of ideas and views. She oversees and executes all business and administrative functions appropriate for an Echelon II organization of approximately 1,400 geographically dispersed employees and is responsible for preparing, executing, and monitoring an operating budget in excess of \$130M for the OCHR Headquarters and Operations Centers.

Previously, Ms. Szelag served as Director of OCHR's Human Resources (HR) Systems and Analytics. She was the DON's technical authority and leader for all civilian HR systems, data analytics, common business processes and continual process improvement programs to include the full compendium of development, delivery and operations. She also was the DON lead on DoD's Force of the Future and Secretary of the Navy Task Force Innovation initiatives.

Ms. Szelag has more than 35 years of federal service working in the field and at headquarters activities – all with the Department of the Navy. Prior to her appointment at OCHR, she was the Director of Corporate Operations at Naval Warfare Center Newport Division she led the CIO/Information Technology, Human Resources, Infrastructure, Corporate Communications, Security and Corporate Business Office organizations, served as Principal Advisor to the Division Technical Director and Commanding Officer on business issues, planning and execution, provided integrated management systems for planning, resource allocation, systems design, systems development, operational and business analysis including formulating and determining budget strategy consistent with the goals and objectives of the Division in order to accomplish mission objectives. She was tapped to spearhead the national deployment of the transition to Navy Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) for the NAVSEA Warfare Centers across the country retiring and converting legacy disparate processes to a single integrated system. Additionally, she led the design and execution of the Common Organizational Structure across 10 geographically dispersed Surface and Undersea Warfare Centers.

Ms. Szelag holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Rhode Island and a Master of Business Administration from Bryant University. She is also a 2017 graduate from the prestigious NAVSEA Commander's Executive Fellow Program.

She has received numerous awards over her career that include the Secretary of the Navy Meritorious Unit commendation awarded to NAVSEA (2013) and the Department of the Navy Superior Civilian Service Medal (2012); in addition, to several other achievement and performance awards.