



Ms. Stephanie Barna has served as the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness and Force Management) since June 14, 2014 after joining the office as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary on April 20, 2014.

As Acting Assistant Secretary, Ms. Barna is the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) on all matters relating to civilian and military personnel policies, readiness of the force, military community and family policy, Total Force Planning and Requirements, transition policy, and diversity management and equal opportunity. Additionally, she exercises day-to-day supervision of the Department of Defense Education Activity and the Defense Commissary Agency and provides oversight of the Armed Forces Retirement Homes.

Prior to her current appointment, Ms. Barna served as the Deputy General Counsel (Operations and Personnel) in the Office of the Army General Counsel. A career member of the Senior Executive Service, she advised three Army Secretaries, while managing a diverse legal portfolio and leading a staff of senior attorneys working in myriad areas of the law and policy, including military operations and personnel; civilian personnel and labor law; international law; criminal law; litigation; intelligence oversight, counter-intelligence, and special operations; public affairs; legislative relations; and the organization and institutional functions of the Department of the Army. Of note, she served as the liaison to the District of Columbia National Guard, for which the Secretary of the Army acted as Commander.

Ms. Barna began her public service career in 1989 as a lieutenant in the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps and, over the years, served in leadership positions in commands across the Army, including U.S. Army Special Forces Command, headquartered at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (Light), at Fort Ord, California. She retired from the U.S. Army Reserve in 2008 in the grade of Colonel, having last served with U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany and as an adjunct professor with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

Ms. Barna holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Washington & Jefferson College, a Juris Doctor from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, and a Master of Laws degree from the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's School. She is a member of the bar of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and has been admitted to practice before the U.S. Army Court of Criminal Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court.

She is a 2012 Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award winner and a recipient of the Secretary of the Army's Exceptional Civilian Service Award. Her military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and she is qualified as an Army Jumpmaster.