



Department of Veterans Affairs

Senior Executive Biography

Dr. Tamara Bonzanto

Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection

Dr. Tamara Bonzanto is the Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection. Dr. Bonzanto plays a critical role in providing oversight for the Secretary's accountability priorities and final review. She provides advisory support to VA leadership in the guidance, coordination, direction, and evaluation of whistleblower protections and senior leader accountability throughout the Department. Prior to her role in the VA, she served as the healthcare investigator for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.



In this position, Dr. Bonzanto conducted numerous site visits at VA facilities nationwide, engaged with whistleblowers, led meetings with VA officials in Washington, advised on legislation, and helped Veterans obtain their benefits.

Dr. Bonzanto's career in healthcare began when she enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 2001. She served as a Hospital Corpsman in a variety of roles and was honorably discharged in 2006. After active duty service, she earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from the Jefferson College of Nursing at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. She continued her work in healthcare with the Philadelphia Housing Authority as a nurse case manager.

Her passion for assisting service members brought her back to the military as a contracted nurse case manager for the Army Reserve from 2012 to 2015. Dr. Bonzanto became an expert in coordinating soldiers' healthcare between the Department of Defense, Department of Veteran Affairs, and civilian healthcare providers in 13 northeastern states. She also served as a medical readiness advisor to the Army Reserve commanders in the Northeast Region. She continued her education at the Jefferson College of Nursing and earned a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) in Community Systems Administration.

Dr. Bonzanto's unique blend of experiences and passion for the mission makes her the ideal choice to serve as the assistant secretary for the Federal Government's first of its kind accountability office. She most recently completed a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree at the Jefferson College of Nursing. Her doctoral project examined registered nurses' capacity to deliver culturally competent health care to Veterans and their families.