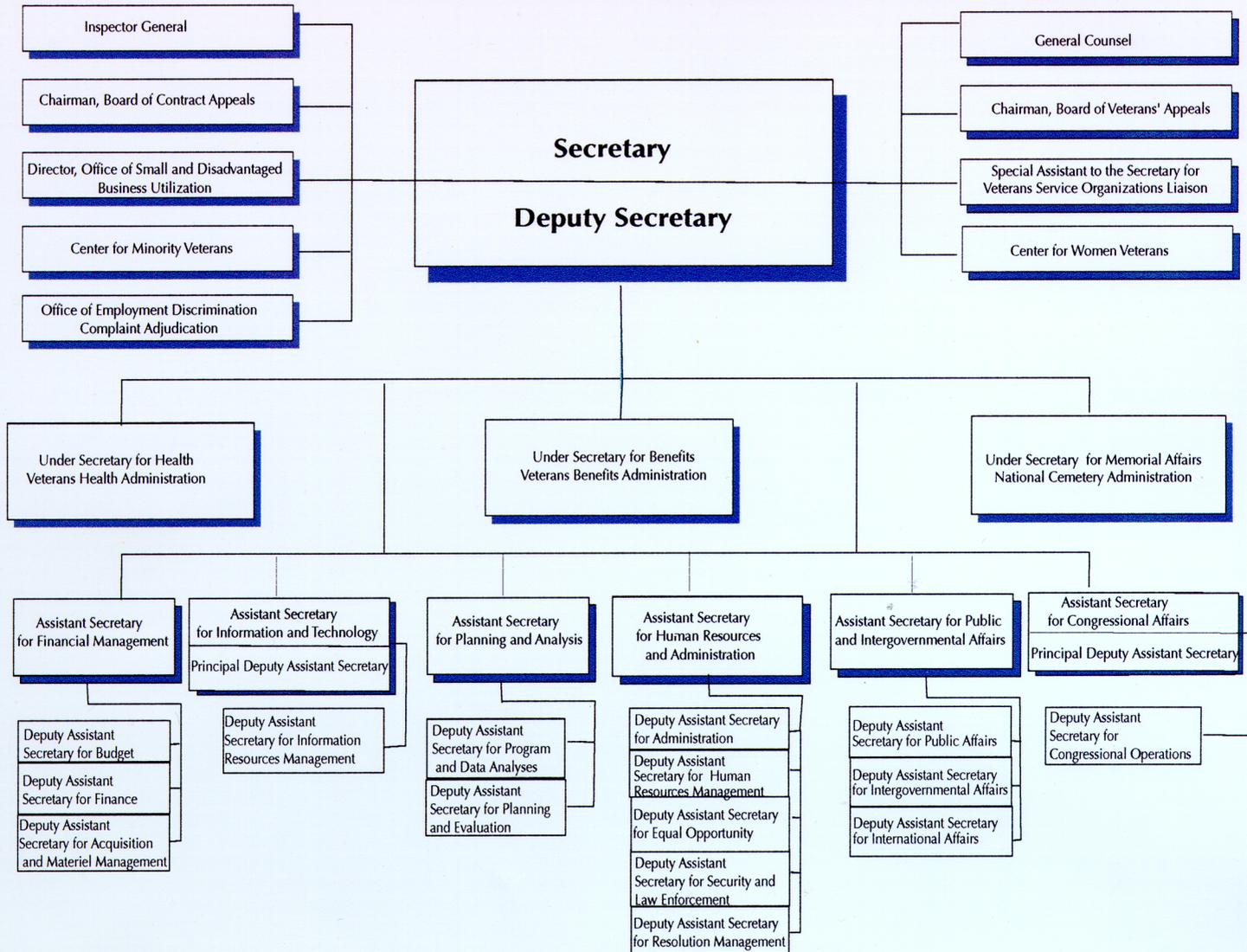


# The Department of Veterans Affairs



The Department of Veterans Affairs was established March 15, 1989, with Cabinet rank, succeeding the Veterans Administration and assuming responsibility for providing benefits to veterans and their dependents. Headed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, VA is the second largest of 14 Cabinet departments and operates nationwide programs of healthcare, assistance services and national cemeteries.