



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

June 1, 2021

**MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARIES, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES
AND OTHER KEY OFFICIALS**

SUBJECT: Designation of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Scientific Integrity Official (VIEWS 5043215).

1. DESIGNATION. This memorandum designates the Chief Research and Development Officer, Veterans Health Administration, as VA's Scientific Integrity Official (SIO). The SIO will oversee implementation and iterative improvement of scientific integrity policies in VA. The SIO shall report to the Chief Science Officer on all matters involving scientific integrity policies. The SIO will be a member of VA's Data Governance Council (DGC) and chair a committee under the DGC focused on scientific integrity and ethical information sharing. The SIO will also work closely and coordinate with the VA Data Analytics Workgroup, another subordinate body of the DGC, to coordinate analytic and statistical policy concerns including data quality and peer review standards.

The SIO will engage a team of designees from applicable Administrations and Staff Offices and lead the effort in developing and implementing the Department's Scientific Integrity policy as an addendum to VA Handbook 0009, *Ensuring Quality of Information Disseminated by VA*.

AUTHORITY. Presidential Memorandum on Restoring Trust in Government Through Scientific Integrity and Evidence-Based Policymaking, dated January 27, 2021.

RESTRICTIONS. None.

REDESIGNATION. None.

EFFECTIVE DATE AND EXPIRATION DATE. This designation is effective upon signature and will expire in 1 year unless superseded or rescinded.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denis McDonough".

Denis McDonough