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Forrest served as Controller for the Cherokee Nation from April 2000 to December 2001 where she led the tribe's Financial Resources Group with its 60-person staff and responsibility for a \$250 million budget. Her responsibilities included overseeing the management and finance function of the Cherokee Nation, including the proper accounting of tribal funds in accordance with generally accepted or legally required accounting principles and methods, assuring the integrity of the tribe's financial information, and protecting its assets.

Forrest began her Federal career in 1990 with the Indian Health Service (IHS) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Claremore, Okla. From January 1990 to April 1995, she served her Service Unit as a Operating Accountant.

Forrest graduated from Oaks (Okla.) High School in 1984. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Northeastern State University in 1990, where she also made the President's Honor Roll, and has completed several hours of graduate work towards a Masters of Business Administration at the University of Tulsa. She is licensed by the State of New Mexico Public Accountancy Board as a Certified Public Accountant.

The BIA Deputy Director, Trust Services, who reports to the Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, is responsible for all headquarters activities associated with the management and protection of Federal Indian trust and restricted lands, real estate services and natural resources, including dam safety, irrigation and power systems, forestry and wildland fire management, land, title and records, and the probating of Indian trust estates.

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