



Indian Health Service Press Release

IHS-13-2006
November 30, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Indian Health Service Executives Receive Presidential Rank Award

Robert G. McSwain, Indian Health Service (IHS) Deputy Director, and John Hubbard, Jr., IHS Navajo Area Director, have been selected as recipients of the 2006 Presidential Rank Award.

"This award recognizes Mr. McSwain's and Mr. Hubbard's exemplary management skills and professional accomplishments," said Charles W. Grim, D.D.S., M.H.S.A., Director of the IHS. "Their work exemplifies the best of public service, and their achievements will have a lasting positive effect on the agency's ability to provide care to our patients and support for tribal health programs."

Each year, the President recognizes a small group of career Senior Executives with the Presidential Rank Award. This prestigious award is given to executives who "have demonstrated their ability to lead a Government that delivers great service, fosters partnerships and community solutions to achieve results, and continuously pushes itself to get the job done more effectively and efficiently. These senior executives are outstanding leaders who consistently demonstrate strength, integrity, industry, and a relentless commitment to public service."

"The IHS is honored to have two of its executives selected for this most prestigious award," said Dr. Grim. "This award represents the quality of government executive performance that is making a real difference in the lives and health of so many American Indians and Alaska Natives."

Mr. McSwain, a member of the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California, shares responsibility with the IHS Director for the total management of a \$3.1 billion national health care delivery program responsible for providing preventive, curative, and community care for approximately 1.8 million of the nation's estimated 3.3 million American Indians and Alaska Natives. This includes the setting of overall agency priorities, policies, and strategic direction. Mr. McSwain provides significant input in managing the formulation, presentation, justification, and execution of the agency budget. Mr. McSwain is also responsible for the development and justifications for testimony presented to congressional appropriation and legislative committees. Along with the Director, he is a principal witness before such committees. Mr. McSwain also supervises the 12 IHS Area Directors.

John Hubbard, Jr., a member of the Navajo Nation, is responsible for the administration of health care services on the largest American Indian reservation in the United States. Mr. Hubbard oversees the provision of a varied health care delivery program to members of the Navajo Nation and the San Juan Paiute Tribe residing on and adjacent to the Navajo Nation in the states of Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah. The Navajo Area consists of six hospitals, six health centers, 15 health stations, and multiple school clinics. Services offered by the Navajo Area include inpatient and ambulatory clinical, medical, and surgical care. Maternal and child health services are offered along with pharmacy, dental, mental health, public health nursing, and substance abuse counseling services. As part of a national Indian health system of federal, tribal, and urban Indian health programs, the Navajo Area also contributes to the support of one urban health program located in Flagstaff, Ariz.