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Dr. Robin Staffin is currently the Director for Basic Research in the Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, where he has responsibility for oversight of all basic research activities throughout the Department of Defense. Previously, Dr. Staffin served as Associate Director of Science and Director for High Energy Physics at the Department of Energy's Office of Science, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Research and Development in DOE's Office of Defense Programs.

During the period 1998-2001, he served as Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary of Energy for Science, Technology, and National Security.

From 1993-1996, Dr. Staffin was Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Policy, focusing on nuclear test ban policy, science-based stockpile stewardship, and nonproliferation. A physicist by training, he received his Bachelor of Science from MIT and Ph.D. from Stanford University in particle physics.