



U.S. Department of the Interior Indian Affairs

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Biographical Statement of Darren A. Cruzan Deputy Bureau Director, Office of Justice Services Bureau of Indian Affairs

Darren A. Cruzan, an enrolled member of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, was appointed Deputy Bureau Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services (OJS) in the U.S. Department of the Interior on September 27, 2010. Reporting directly to the BIA Director, the OJS Deputy Bureau Director oversees the Bureau's law enforcement, corrections and tribal courts functions and programs that serve the federally recognized tribes.

Mr. Cruzan returned to the BIA after serving since 2006 with the U.S. Department of Defense Pentagon Force Protection Agency (PFTA) as the Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Criminal Investigative and Protective Directorate, where he supervised the day-to-day operations of the agency's Criminal Investigations Division.

He also served as the detail leader on dignitary protection missions for senior level department officials, both within the continental United States and overseas. His overseas missions included assignments into Iraq, Beirut, Saudi Arabia, Germany, France, Belgium, The Czech Republic, The United Kingdom, Austria and Japan. He was later appointed by the agency's director as division chief of its Recruitment and Medical Division.

Mr. Cruzan's law enforcement career began as a patrolman with the Joplin (Mo.) Police Department in 1992. He went on to serve as a police officer with his tribe until 1995, when he selected to work for the BIA's District II Law Enforcement (now OJS) Office in the Bureau's Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office in Muskogee, Okla.

In 1998, Mr. Cruzan was promoted to the rank of Supervisory Police Officer and assigned to the United States Indian Police Academy located at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Artesia, N.M., where he provided law enforcement training to newly hired police, corrections and telecommunications officers working in Indian Country.

In 2001, he was promoted to Criminal Investigator and assigned to the BIA's Portland, Ore., field office, where he carried out federal criminal investigations and provided technical law enforcement assistance to the federally recognized tribes in the Pacific Northwest.

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Mr. Cruzan's next promotion was to the post of Supervisory Special Agent on the Crow Indian Reservation in Montana. During his tenure his department was honored in 2004 by the Secretary of the Interior with DOI's "Customer Service Excellence Award" for their efforts in reducing the number of Driving Under the Influence-related fatalities on the reservation.

Also in 2004, Mr. Cruzan accepted a request to serve as the Senior Law Enforcement Advisor to the BIA's Associate Director of Operations at its headquarters in Washington, D.C. While there, he also served as the Indian Country Law Enforcement liaison to the Department.

He continued in both capacities until moving to the PFTA in 2006.

Mr. Cruzan is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy (FBINA), Class 224 (2006). He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Administration from the Mountain State University in West Virginia.

Mr. Cruzan is married with two children.

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