

**【§5036. Secretary of the Navy: succession to duties】**

(NOTE: Section 5036 is relocated to chapter 503 as section 5017 with changes.)

**CHAPTER 505—OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS**

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**§ 5031. Office of the Chief of Naval Operations**

(a) *There is in the executive part of the Department of the Navy an Office of the Chief of Naval Operations to assist the Secretary of the Navy in carrying out his responsibilities.*

(b) *The Office of the Chief of Naval Operations shall consist of the following:*

(1) *The Chief of Naval Operations.*

(2) *The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.*

(3) *Not more than four Deputy Chiefs of Naval Operations, as prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy.*

(4) *Not more than three Assistant Chiefs of Naval Operations, as prescribed by the Secretary.*

(5) *The Surgeon General of the Navy.*

(6) *The Chief of Naval Personnel.*

(7) *The Chief of Chaplains of the Navy.*

(8) *Other members of the Navy and Marine Corps assigned or detailed to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.*

(9) *Civilians in the Department of the Navy assigned or detailed to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.*

(c) *Except as otherwise specifically prescribed by law, the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations shall be organized in such manner, and its members shall perform such duties and have such titles, as the Secretary may prescribe.*

(d)(1) *The total number of military and civilian personnel assigned or detailed to permanent duty in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations may not exceed 1,725. Such limitation does not apply in time of war or during a national emergency declared by Congress.*

(2) *Not more than 1,300 officers of the Navy and Marine Corps may be assigned or detailed to permanent duty in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. However, such limitation does not apply in time of war or during a national emergency declared by Congress, or whenever the President finds that it is in the national interest to increase the number of officers in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.*