



U.S. Department of Justice

National Domestic Communications Assistance Center
Executive Advisory Board
Administrative Subcommittee



NDCAC Deputy Director Recommendation

Nomination of Deputy Director:

The NDCAC's Executive Advisory Board's (EAB) Administrative Subcommittee has the responsibility of recommending NDCAC Deputy Director candidates to the EAB. As a result of the recent transition of the previous Deputy Director, the position is vacant. The Administrative Subcommittee has again leveraged the resources of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to find suitable candidates to fill the Deputy Director position.

This decision is based on the fact the DEA is regularly requested to assist the law enforcement community because of the strength of its electronic surveillance expertise; has a considerable understanding of the many varied challenges faced by law enforcement with the collection of digital evidence; and is keenly aware of the mission and goals of the NDCAC. Further, the DEA has a track record of supporting the State and local law enforcement community; has earned a level of nationwide trust; has the personnel resources to devote to the NDCAC; and is willing to share an experienced manager to fill the NDCAC Deputy Director role.

The DEA has recommended Associate Deputy Chief Inspector (ADCI) Thomas M. Flowers, a 31-year law enforcement veteran with 9 years of experience as a local police officer, state trooper, and narcotic and homicide detective; and 22 years as a DEA field agent and supervisor of diverse investigatory groups. ADCI Flowers has extensive experience with complex investigations that utilized Title III orders, and pen registers / trap and trace orders. Further, as the Resident Agent in Charge of DEA's Fayetteville, Arkansas office, he supervised many investigations that encountered obstacles in collecting digital evidence as a result of communications applications that are not required to have technical solutions to facilitate lawful access. In short, he appreciates the technical challenges faced by law enforcement and the realities of how communications services and devices impact investigations.

ADCI Flowers has a history of understanding the importance of the viewpoints of state and local law enforcement agencies. He incorporated the input from his state and local law enforcement contemporaries as the Resident Agent in Charge of DEA's Fayetteville office. The coordination and cooperation between agencies ensured information was shared and timely action taken when necessary. ADCI Flowers regularly participated in events hosted by state and local agencies to share information and advance the working relationship between the DEA and its counterparts. ADCI Flowers served as Chairman of the Board of the Arkansas State Board for the Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) and served as a member of HIDTA Budget Committee to formulate the HIDTA budget for a five state region.

ADCI Flowers was a Special Agent Instructor assigned to the DEA's Office of Training and understands the need for more extensive training throughout the law enforcement community.



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He participated in a National Institute of Justice (NIJ) committee made up of representatives from the DEA, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Border Patrol, state and local police agencies, private industry, and NIJ personnel. ADCI Flowers learned firsthand that information sharing among state, local and federal police agencies is crucial to fostering positive working relationships and the results of such work can benefit law enforcement agencies as a whole.

The NDCAC has entered a new era of providing support to the law enforcement community. Six years after first opening its doors, it has a firm foundation of support capabilities; a robust and growing suite of training and tools; is increasingly viewed as a “go-to” resource for technical insight and advice by the law enforcement community; and it continues to actively involve other agencies in supporting law enforcement. To foster the future growth of the NDCAC, the organization needs to fill the Deputy Director position.

The Administrative Subcommittee believes ADCI Flowers meets all the necessary qualifications of NDCAC Deputy Director and possesses all the necessary qualities to contribute to the management of the NDCAC; inform the Executive Advisory Board; and assist the law enforcement community. ADCI Flowers has the capability to ensure the exchange of information among Federal, State, tribal and local law enforcement agencies regarding lawfully-authorized electronic surveillance capabilities, evidence collection on communications devices, and technical location capabilities; enhance the relationships between law enforcement and the communications industry; and assist in the management of an effective infrastructure that maintains an external focus to represent law enforcement stakeholders.

DEA Deputy Assistant Administrator Frederick Smith (Office of Investigative Technology) submitted the DEA’s official recommendation of ADCI Flowers that highlights career achievements and examples of how SA Flowers meets various requirements of the NDCAC Deputy Director position. Mr. Smith emphasized ADCI Flowers’ experience as an agent and manager; his commitment to the highest level of professionalism and integrity while building and maintaining strong coalitions; and his recognition of the importance of individual effort, self-motivation, and sound judgment when striving to achieve goals and objectives.

The Administrative Subcommittee unanimously agreed to recommend to the full Executive Advisory Board that the EAB nominate ADCI Flowers as a Deputy Director of the NDCAC for an initial three-year term. It is the Administrative Subcommittee’s recommendation the EAB recommend to the Attorney General that ADCI Flowers be selected and appointed as a Deputy Director of the NDCAC.