Denise Sheehan (Interior)



Denise is the Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital and the Chief Human Capital Officer for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), having programmatic responsibility for the Service's policy directives, budget, planning, and human capital.

In 1998, Denise entered the Senior Executive Service as the Assistant Director – Planning and Budget. In addition to her original duties, she oversaw the Service's Equal Employment and Diversity Program from 2000 until 2010. Ms. Sheehan earned the prestigious Meritorious Presidential Rank Award in 2004, a recognition conferred in part due to her innovative contributions in the area of civil rights.

Previous Service positions include Special Assistant to the Deputy Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Deputy Executive Director of the North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office.

Denise joined the Department of the Interior in 1986 as a budget analyst for the Office of Budget in the Office of the Secretary in concert with her post-graduate Presidential Management Internship. In this capacity, Ms. Sheehan managed accounts for the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Office Territorial and International Affairs and earned the Office of the Secretary Equal Employment Opportunity Certificate of Appreciation for her collateral work as an EEO Counselor. She also successfully completed the Departmental Management Development Program. From 1978 through 1986, Denise was employed in private and not-for-profit sectors in the mental health field.

Denise Sheehan graduated magna cum laude from the College of William and Mary in 1978 with majors in psychology and sociology. In 1986, she obtained her Master of Public Administration degree, with an emphasis in Budget and Public Sector Finance from Old Dominion University; and in 2004, she completed her Master of Science degree in Human Development (Marriage and Family Therapy program) at Virginia Tech.

Ms. Sheehan is the proud parent of one purely wonderful son, Justin George; three demanding pugs; and four problematic but priceless cats.