

IRS**News Release****Media Relations Office****Washington, D.C.****Tel. 202.622.4000****For Release: 03/08/02****Release No: IR-2002-31****IRS APPOINTS JOHN ROBINSON CHIEF OF EEO AND DIVERSITY**

WASHINGTON – The Internal Revenue Service today announced the selection of John M. Robinson as Chief, Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity. Robinson will serve as the IRS’s principal adviser on matters relating to equal employment opportunity, affirmative action and diversity. In addition, he will provide overall policy direction and program oversight for those areas and for the agency’s external civil rights programs.

“John brings over 20 years of leadership experience in both education and government service to his role,” said IRS Commissioner Charles O. Rossotti. “His extensive background and considerable skills will help the IRS ensure fair and equitable treatment of employees and taxpayers alike.”

In addition to EEO, Robinson has a strong background in organizational and cultural change, training and management. He came to the IRS from his position as a Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy. In that role, he formulated departmental policy concerning EEO, diversity, work force development and community outreach. Before that, he served as a Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor. He began his career in government service in 1991 when the governor of Rhode Island appointed him director of the state’s Department of Employment and Training.

Before beginning his career in government service, Robinson served as a senior dean at Brown University and held various administrative positions in higher education. In 1988, he was selected to the Kellogg National Fellowship. A graduate of Brown University, Robinson holds a master’s degree from Tuskegee University and completed programs at the Center for Creative Leadership and the Institute for Education Management at Harvard University.

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