

Allen Barnes (AZ)

My name is Allen L. Barnes. I have served as the State Data Center Coordinator (Lead Agent) for the State of Arizona since March 2005. I have had the honor to serve on the National State Data Center Steering Committee since July 2011. While on the Steering Committee, I have had the privilege of serving for five years as the Liaison to the National Census Information Center Steering Committee. I have also had the privilege of serving as a chairperson for the most recent Steering Committee By-Laws sub-committee, which successfully concluded in August of 2014, with newly revised and ratified By-Laws. I have also participated in the creation of the current Strategic Plan and the last two SDC Boot Camps for new SDC Leads (2011 & 2016).

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ELECTION RULES, PLEASE FIND MY RESPONSES TO THE PRE-PROPOSED QUESTIONS:

1) What do you think the primary role of the Steering Committee is or should be?

In my experience, I feel that the primary role of the Steering Committee is to be the administrator and tireless advocate for the promotion of the National State Data Center program. In recent years, the National SDC program has seen a lot of changes in many aspects of the program. Some of these changes have been positive for the SDC and some have been and are still very challenging for the program. The Steering Committee, however, has worked very hard to show the Bureau that this premier partnership is one of the most valuable programs it has ever created.

2) What would your primary goal(s) be as a member?

My primary goal is to be an effective advocate for the SDC Program and for my tree state members.

3) What is your vision for the SDC network for 2019 and beyond?

I continue to visualize the SDC network as a dependable, knowledgeable institution and an integral premier partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau and its stakeholders. Although our role in data dissemination has changed a bit over the years, I continue to see the program as one that performs quality service in the form of expert training and effective communication with our networks and constituents.

4) What do you think the SDC network can do to add value to Census data?

The SDC network continues to be a powerful advocate of Census Bureau data in its diverse creation of products, visualizations, and communication of Census data. I believe the program should continue to move in that direction. Sharing the use of new tools and techniques can go a long way in creating added value to Census data for all data users.