Figure 1.7. Application DBA reporting structure

There are problems with both of these reporting structures, though. The first problem is that DRM should be placed higher in the IT reporting hierarchy. It is a good idea to have the DRM group report directly to the CIO. When an organization understands the importance of data to the health of the organization, placing DRM at this level is encouraged.

Furthermore, when application DBAs exist, they should not report to the application programming manager only. A secondary line of reporting to the DRM group will ensure that DBA skills are shared and communicated throughout the organization. Figure 1.8 delineates the recommended reporting structure for the data resource management group.

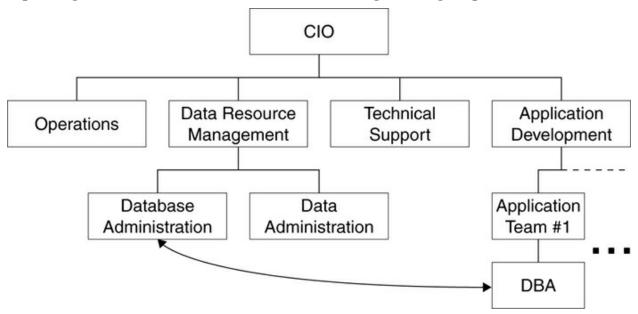


Figure 1.8. Recommended DBA reporting structure

Multiplatform DBA Issues

Managing a multiplatform environment complicates the job of database administration. A whole batch of different problems and issues arise that need to be addressed. The first task is to define the scope of each DBA's job. Does a single DBA administer all of the different DBMSs, or does each DBA focus on supporting only one DBMS?

Managing a multiplatform environment complicates the job of database administration.