



Chief Master Sgt. Wade Trahan, Air Force Recruiting Service Operations Division superintendent, pins the AFRS badge on the new AFRS commander, Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, at the change of command ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas, Sept. 2. (U.S. Air Force photo/Joel A. Martinez)

AFRS welcomes new commander

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas – Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak took command of the Air Force Recruiting Service in a change of command ceremony here, Sept. 2.

The bomber pilot and former Nuclear Weapons Center commander expressed his enthusiasm for his new assignment, and that he couldn't be "more impressed" with AFRS and the quality of people who are serving in it.

The ceremony coincided with the conclusion of the New

Squadron Commander's Course which afforded the general the opportunity to address and meet a majority of his leadership staff.

Speaking directly to the men and women of AFRS the general said, "Our greatest weapon doesn't come with a tail number or a serial number...but with a Social Security number."

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Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak is joined by his wife, Tanya, and son, Capt. Michael Harencak, at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas, Sept. 2. The general assumed command of the Air Force Recruiting Service in a ceremony officiated by Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson, commander of Air Education and Training Command. Harencak succeeded Maj. Gen. James Johnson, who was reassigned as Director, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C. (U.S. Air Force photo/Joel A. Martinez)

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“We make sure our greatest weapon system is joining the Air Force every day,” he emphasized about the importance of the recruiting mission.

He commended Maj. Gen. James Johnson’s leadership and said that AFRS is a truly well-run organization in a great command.

Harencak succeeded Johnson who was reassigned as Director, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

Harencak joins the recruiting service from his previous assignment at the Pentagon where he was the Assistant Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration.

He is the 34th commander of AFRS, which was established in 1954 as the 3500th U.S. Air Force Recruiting Wing. The name was officially changed to the U.S. Air Force Recruiting Service on July 8, 1959. AFRS has been headquartered in San Antonio since 1965 at what is now Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.



Taking a big step

Delayed Entry Program members from the 313th Recruiting Squadron H-Flight, walk down to the field at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, New York, Sept. 1. Lt. Col. Ray Fernandez, 313th RCS commander, swore in 44 DEP members during the Valley Cats baseball game. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Civil Air Patrol joins Total Force Airmen

By Staff Sgt. Whitney Stanfield
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – When conducting missions for the Air Force as the official Air Force auxiliary, the Civil Air Patrol is now included in the Air Force's definition of the total force. CAP has provided 74 years of support to emergency services, aerospace education and cadet programs.

In August 2015, the Air Force updated Doctrine Volume 2, "Leadership," expanding the Air Force's descriptions of total force and Airmen to now consist of regular, Guard, Reserve, civilian and auxiliary members.

Historically, the broader term Airmen referred to uniformed and civilian members of the U.S. Air Force (officer or enlisted, regular, Reserve, or Guard) regardless of rank, component or specialty.

With this newest change, Air Force leaders should consider each part of the total force, including the auxiliary, when determining the most effective and efficient ways to complete the mission. CAP has approximately 57,000 volunteers and 550 aircraft assigned to more than 1,500 units stateside available or currently supporting non-combat missions on behalf of the Air Force.

"As a strategic partner, these unpaid professionals have boldly served our nation saving the Air Force almost 40 times the cost of using military assets for each hour served," said Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James. "Inclusion in the total force reflects the continuing key contributions of this highly trained and equipped organization."

The auxiliary members, who fly the nearly 100,000 hours per year performing disaster relief, counterdrug, search and rescue, fighter interceptor training, aerial observation and cadet orientation flights, will now be included in the total force and referred to as Airmen during the performance of official duties in recognition of their contributions to the Air Force.

"Civil Air Patrol enjoys a proud legacy of selfless sacrifice and service to country and community that spans decades," said Maj. Gen. Joseph Vazquez, the CAP national commander. "Our ability to augment the Air Force is second to none. We provide 85 percent of inland search and rescue missions and disaster-relief support to local, state and national agencies as well as aerial reconnaissance for homeland security, and remain continually postured to offer more."

Beyond CAP's support to achieve its homeland responsibilities for non-combat operations, the organization has been recognized for their efforts to inspire hundreds of thousands of cadets and K-12 students to pursue science, technology, engineering and mathematics education and training.

"Civil Air Patrol's increased exposure has a direct impact on attracting youth interest in STEM-based activities which are skills necessary to develop the innovative Airmen our Air Force needs," said Chief of Staff General Mark A. Welsh III. "We proudly welcome the Air Force auxiliary by extending our badge of honor as Airmen."



AETC commander visit

Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson, commander of Air Education and Training Command, talks with Master Sgt. Krista Herzog, 341st Recruiting Squadron E-Flight chief, and Staff Sgt. Mario Jaramillo, 341st RCS enlisted accessions recruiter, during a visit to Jaramillo's office in San Antonio Aug. 10. The general, joined by Maj. Gen. James Johnson, then Air Force Recruiting Service commander, also visited the San Antonio Military Entrance Processing Station as part of his orientation to recruiting. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Mass casualty exercise

Members of the 360th Recruiting Group headquarters pose for a photo during the Defense Logistics Agency-Susquehanna Depot's force protection and disaster response exercise Aug. 15. Airmen played the role of victims during the weekend mass casualty exercise. From left are Master Sgt. Michael Darter, Master Sgt. Johann Lynch, Col. Eric Espino, 1st Lt. Hans Hokans and Master Sgt. Patrick Lippold. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Master Sgt. Patrick Lippold, 360th Recruiting Group, is assisted by first responders during a mass casualty exercise at the Defense Logistics Agency-Susquehanna Depot, Aug. 15. Lippold and other group personnel played the role of victims during the exercise. (U.S. Air Force photo/Col. Eric Espino)



Master Sgt. Johann Lynch, 360th Recruiting Group, is assisted by first responders during a mass casualty exercise at the Defense Logistics Agency-Susquehanna Depot Aug. 15. Lynch played the role of a victim during the mass casualty exercise. (U.S. Air Force photo/Col. Eric Espino)



Triple winners

The 319th Recruiting Squadron took home three Team Hanscom awards at the Hanscom Air Force Base, Massachusetts, quarterly awards event Aug. 12. ABOVE – The squadron won the Spirit Award for the second consecutive quarter. The award includes a fire hydrant full of candy. LEFT – Airman of the Quarter honors went to recently promoted Staff Sgt. Marjorie Brooks, who also sang the national anthem at the event. NCO of the Quarter honors went to Tech. Steven Winiarski, E-Flight recruiter in Bristol, Connecticut. He was not available to attend the event, so Senior Master Sgt. Thomas H. Farrill, production superintendent, accepted on his behalf. (U.S. Air Force photos)



The future starts here

While participating in the Recruiter Assistance Program, Staff Sgt. Luis Loza Gutierrez took photos of his recruiter on the job. Tech. Sgt. Victor Herrera, 341st Recruiting Squadron, recruits the next generation of Airmen from his office at the U.S. Armed Forces Career Center in McAllen, Texas. He covers a section of the Lone Star State with approximately 17,000 potential recruits (seniors and juniors) from more than 20 high schools in an area approximately 4,600 square miles. Gutierrez is assigned at Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota. ABOVE – Herrera shares in a lighthearted moment during an initial meeting with 2015 high school graduate Emanuel Pacheco Nelson in McAllen, Aug. 10. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Luis Loza Gutierrez)

Tech. Sgt. Victor Herrera, 341st Recruiting Squadron hands a document to Air Force Delayed Entry Program recruit Robert Ramirez from Mission, Texas, and asks him to carefully review the information he provided during a follow-up appointment at the U.S. Armed Forces Career Center in McAllen, Texas, Aug. 10. Herrera said having recruits review information they provide him not only ensures accuracy of documentation, but also helps relay to future Airmen the strong emphasis the service places on the importance of attention to detail. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Luis Loza Gutierrez)





Lifesavers

Staff Sgt. Marvin Contreras, left, and Staff Sgt. Serafin Rosa stand with Anna Martinez at the Tucson, Arizona, recruiting office Sept. 3. The two recruiters, assigned to the 362nd Recruiting Squadron, noticed that Martinez, who works in housekeeping at the office, had difficulty breathing and was acting strangely. They sat and calmed her down and called 911. As they waited for the ambulance to arrive, they monitored her symptoms. The medics told the two NCOs that Martinez had a stroke. After receiving medical treatment, Martinez returned to work and wanted the recruiters to know how thankful she was to them for getting her emergency care and saving her life. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Off to BMT

Staff Sgt. Marvin Contreras, 362nd Recruiting Squadron G-Flight, stands with Maj. Craig Bailey, his wife, Lori, and son, Brett, in Tucson, Arizona, Sept. 3. The major, who is prior enlisted, is commander of the 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona. He and his wife came to wish their son good luck as he shipped out to Basic Military Training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Promotion time

The 311th Recruiting Squadron celebrated two promotions Sept. 1. ABOVE – Tech. Sgt. William Brown, left, and Tech. Sgt. Michael Williams tack on stripes for newly promoted Tech. Sgt. Michelle Randolph at the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Military Entrance Processing Station. BELOW – Master Sgt. Thomas Weir and Master Sgt. Nicole Davison tack on stripes for newly promoted Tech. Sgt. Christopher Beck at the Pittsburgh MEPS. (U.S. Air Force photos)





Supporting the community

Members of Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas, and the 344th Training Squadron at JBSA-Lackland played a role in collecting and sorting school supplies for local economically disadvantaged children Aug. 7-8. The collection is managed by Communities in Schools of San Antonio which provides underserved students with the tools needed on their first day back in class. ABOVE – From left are Tech. Sgt. Estrid Serrano, Senior Master Sgt. Eugenia Cowan, Tech. Sgt. Regina Robertson and Staff Sgt. Ashley Brown. LEFT – Pictured are Tech. Sgt. Estrid Serrano and Staff Sgt. La Keshia Joseph. (Courtesy photos)





Meeting the CMSAF

Tech. Sgt. Lucas Bistor, 311th Recruiting Squadron G-Flight recruiter, stands with Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody at the Air Force Sergeants Association Professional Airmen's Conference, which was held in San Antonio Aug. 24-26. (U.S. Air Force photo)



A day at the park

Lt. Col. Jason Johnson swears in Delayed Entry Program members of the 311th Recruiting Squadron at All-Pro Freight Stadium in Avon, Ohio, Aug. 20. The event was held during a Lake Erie Crushers minor league baseball game. Johnson is commander of the 4th Battalion/Cleveland Military Entrance Processing Station. Recruiters at the event included Staff Sgt. Sergio Melendez, Tech. Sgt. Lucas Bistor and Master Sgt. Cori Branstetter. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Pocono Indy Race

The 314th Recruiting Squadron B-Flight participated in the Pocono Indy Race in Long Pond, Pennsylvania, Aug. 23. The race is nationally televised and the Air Force is invited to gain leads, help with community outreach, and maintain the outstanding relationship that the Pocono Raceway has with their military veterans. ABOVE – Tech. Sgt. Dominick Aritz, left, and Staff Sgt. Bryan Hilsheimer, right, stand with members of their Delayed Entry Program before the swear-in ceremony. LEFT – Staff Sgt. Bryan Hilsheimer and Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Huber practice their rifle movements for the color guard ceremony Aug. 23. (U.S. Air Force photos/Tech. Sgt. Ryan Schneider)



Trying to make the cut

Tech. Sgt. Jesse Underwood, 317th Recruiting Squadron C-Flight chief, coordinated a Physical Ability and Stamina Test for A-, C-, D- and E-Flights at Fort Meade, Maryland, Aug. 20. Testing was conducted by Staff Sgt. Joshua Roesly, 360th Recruiting Group special operations liaison, with assistance from recruiters. Eight of the 18 trainees passed. (U.S. Air Force photos/Tech. Sgt. Jesse Underwood)





Eager to test

Staff Sgt. Amanda Holmes, 339th Recruiting Squadron, stands with three members of her Delayed Entry Program – Colin Garcia, Jackson Fischer and Benjamin Penrose – and Staff Sgt. Joshua Roesly, 360th Recruiting Group special operations liaison, in Portage, Michigan, Aug. 31. Roesly conducted the Physical Ability and Stamina Test for the three DEP members who were trying out for special operations career fields. Holmes is a recruiter in Fort Wayne, Indiana. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Lifeguard competition

Tech. Sgt. Moises Maramba and Tech. Sgt. Barbara Richardson, 314th Recruiting Squadron D-Flight, coordinated a Battlefield Airmen event in conjunction with the South Jersey Lifeguard Competition in Margate, New Jersey, and invited two pararescuemen to provide a presentation, answer questions and offer support. LEFT – Maramba speaks to the lifeguards about Air Force opportunities Aug. 20. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Promoted to tech

Tech. Sgt. Patrick Paez, center, is surrounded by his team mates from the 341st Recruiting Squadron as they prepare to celebrate his promotion in Houston, Sept. 1. From left in the front row are Tech. Sgt. Kelly Smith, Staff Sgt. Denise McHaney, Paez, Master Sgt. Dara Lora and Staff Sgt. Stephanie Hendricks. In the back row are Tech. Sgt. Terrance Tyler, Tech. Sgt. Jason Long and Staff Sgt. Tiffanie Dixson. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Force multiplier

Staff Sgt. James Guidry, center, stands with recruiters from the 341st Recruiting Squadron in College Station, Texas. At left is Staff Sgt. Justin Casey, and at right is Staff Sgt. Ruben Garcia. Guidry is a security forces Airman from Ellington Field, Texas. He dropped by the recruiting office to show the recruiters two flags – Richard Petty Motorsports (shown) and the Houston Astros. Both had been signed by their respective team members. Guidry is taking them on his deployment and he will have them flown on various aircraft. When he returns he will provide the flags to local organizations to help boost community relations. According to Casey, Guidry “is an awesome local contact who contributes to our recruiting efforts. He also conducts multiple classroom visits at local schools.” (U.S. Air Force photo)



NASCAR at Bristol

Thirty Delayed Entry Program members of the 332nd Recruiting Squadron are sworn in by Lt. Gen. Arnold W. Bunch Jr., Military Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, at the NASCAR Sprint Car Series in Bristol, Tennessee, Aug. 22. The 332nd RCS G-Flight worked the race, which featured the No. 43 car. There were more than 165,000 spectators at the race. According to the squadron, the Air Force is the only military presence at NASCAR events in its region. They collected 1,250 leads at Bristol last year, and broke that record with 1,415 leads this year. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Active shooter training

Lt. Jon Jensen of the Defense Logistics Agency police conducts active shooter training at 360th Recruiting Group headquarters Aug. 20. In an effort to improve their posture after the Chattanooga shooting, the 360th RCG invited their host base to provide practical active shooter training specific to their facility. This training is in addition to the Air Force's annual requirement. (U.S. Air Force photo)



An Army of one

Maj. Gen. James Johnson, former Air Force Recruiting Service commander, administers the oath of enlistment to Michael Prothro, son of 369th Recruiting Group Superintendent Chief Master Sgt. Reginald Prothro, at the San Antonio Military Entrance Processing Station Aug. 10. Johnson was visiting with members of the 341st Recruiting Squadron at the MEPS at the same time the younger Prothro was enlisting in the U.S. Army. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Volunteer spirit

Tech. Sgt. Jessica Martinez and Staff Sgt. Ryan Lundin of the 311th Recruiting Squadron volunteer their time at a Habitat for Humanity project in Washington, Pennsylvania, Aug. 21. Martinez is a client systems technician and Lundin is the squadron operations NCO. (U.S. Air Force photo)