



Remembering 9/11

Members of the 343rd Recruiting Squadron D-Flight, along with several members of their Delayed Entry Program, participated in a flag placement ceremony commemorating the anniversary of 9/11 at Gray's Lake Park in Des Moines, Iowa, Sept. 11. Each flag represented a life lost on 9/11. Recruiters included Master Sgt. Farrah Stowe, D-Flight chief, and Tech. Sgt. Jeremiah Hall, Tech. Sgt. Jack Tucker, Staff Sgt. John Gerke, Staff Sgt. Chandler Pitts and Staff Sgt. Justine Peichoto. (U.S. Air Force photos)



CFC time

Tech. Sgt. Kristin Burton, Combined Federal Campaign project officer, helps Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, Air Force Recruiting Service commander, with his CFC donation paperwork Sept. 17. The annual campaign, which runs Department of Defense-wide from Sept. 1 to Dec. 15, provides all federal employees (both Airmen and government service civilians) the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all. Recruiting personnel should check with their first sergeant if they have not been contacted by their respective squadron keyworker. Burton is a production analyst at Headquarters AFRS, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas. (U.S. Air Force photo/Annette Crawford)

Congratulations

SLECP nominee

Congratulations to the Air Force Recruiting Service nominee for the Senior Leadership Enlisted Commissioning Program, **Tech. Sgt. Shanna Tenney** of the 364th Recruiting Squadron. She will now represent AFRS at the next level of the selection process.

Sijan Award

Congratulations to the following individuals who have been named the 2015 Lance P. Sijan winners for Air Force Recruiting Service. The U.S. Air Force created the Lance P. Sijan Award to recognize individuals who have demonstrated the highest qualities of leadership.

Junior Enlisted Category: **Tech. Sgt. Michael Parrott**, Headquarters AFRS

Senior Enlisted Category: **Senior Master Sgt. Marlon Daniels**, HQ AFRS

Junior Officer Category: **Capt. Richard Browell**, 362nd Recruiting Squadron

Senior Officer Category: **Maj. Tammy Edwards**, 318th RCS

Quarterly awards

Congratulations to the winners of the Air Force Recruiting Service 2015 Second Quarter Awards.

Junior Enlisted Member: **Senior Airman Jasmin Gaillard**, 361st Recruiting Squadron

NCO: **Tech. Sgt. Peter Shenot**, 311th RCS

Senior NCO: **Master Sgt. Michael Vecero**, 319th RCS

Company Grade Officer: **Capt. Joseph Oletti**, 349th RCS

Civilian Category I: **Cristy Starkweather**, 311th RCS

Civilian Category II: **Mary Hale**, Headquarters AFRS

Civilian Category III: **Kenneth Raimondi**, HQ AFRS

Recruiter responds to accident scene

By Annette Crawford
Air Force Recruiting Service Public Affairs

His workday had not even begun when Tech. Sgt. Greg Seeley had to spring into action. Seeley had just parked his truck in front of the Albuquerque Military Entrance Processing Station on Aug. 19 when he heard screeching brakes.

“It all happened too fast to really think over what to do,” said Seely, who is assigned to the 367th Recruiting Squadron D-Flight and temporarily detailed to the MEPS.

When he turned to the direction of where the brake sound was coming from, he saw two vehicles crash into each other and then bounce off a semi, which rolled onto its side and slid to a stop about 50 feet away on Interstate 40.

“I called 911 and ran to the fence separating the MEPS parking from the highway. I could see a fire had started in the brush next to the highway and quickly realized an overturned semi full of diesel next to a growing fire was a bad situation,” he said.

With the semi on its side, the eastbound lanes of I-40 were shut down. Some of the drivers who were now at a standstill ran to help the driver of the car that was crushed between the semi and the barrier. From behind the fence, Seeley could see the other side of the wreck and saw an older man in the passenger seat of a pickup struggling to get out.

“He was yelling that fuel was leaking. No one could get to him so I hopped two chain-link fences and the concrete barrier to help get him away from the semi,” Seeley said.

He was soon joined by Maj. Craig Nordskog, the Albuquerque MEPS commander, and Army Capt. John Deal, MEPS operations commander, who came over the fence behind him. The three of them pulled open the door to the truck and helped the man move away from the crash site.

“As soon as we got the door open, we turned to see the driver of the semi standing in his cab bleeding from his arm and signaling to us. With his truck overturned he couldn’t reach the now topside passenger door, so we shouted for him to kick his windshield out and he tried but couldn’t break the glass,” Seeley explained.

“I grabbed a broken piece of the semi and started breaking the windshield, but quickly realized if I kicked it in it would be on top of the driver. Captain Deal gave me a boost up onto the semi cab and I opened the passenger door. The captain came up behind me and held up the door and held onto me as I leaned into the cab and pulled the driver out. We slid down the cab and helped the driver off and all three booked it away from the semi,” Seeley said.



Tech. Sgt. Greg Seeley, 367th Recruiting Squadron, briefs a new member of the Delayed Entry Program at the Albuquerque Military Entrance Processing Station. (U.S. Air Force photo)

While all this was happening, the fire had gotten larger. Seeley said that fortunately, two men from behind the wreck came forward with fire extinguishers from their vehicles and extinguished the flames.

“At this point we had moved all the victims away from the crash and we tended to the most injured, and gave the info to the firemen rolling onto the scene. We stuck with the girl who was most badly injured and gave her water while the medics tended to her. In a dramatic turn this girl who was bloodied and crying for her dog saw a fireman come over with her dog that had been stuck under the back seat. Poor thing had a broken leg, but as bad as the wreck was I still can’t believe she and the dog walked away from it.”

Looking back on the events of that Wednesday morning, Seeley said he was grateful to be of help.

“It was a crazy thing to see happen in front of you,” he admitted. “I just happened to be where I could help and saw that others couldn’t, so I jumped in and tried to make sure everyone got clear. Thankfully, for the men with the fire extinguishers and the others who helped it turned out much better than it could have been.”

Seeley said they later found out the crash was caused by a drunk driver.

“I went home that day and hugged my kids a little tighter knowing that it could have been a much worse day for me and all those involved. That drunk driver put so many innocent people at risk.”

Air Force family comes to Airman's aid

By Annette Crawford

Air Force Recruiting Service Public Affairs

A young Airman and his wife learned the meaning of "Air Force family" firsthand after they lost all their possessions in a fire in Oklahoma City, Aug. 3.

Airman 1st Class Joshua Crespo was finishing his stint with the Recruiter Assistance Program at the 349th Recruiting Squadron. He had spent the afternoon packing his car for the drive to his first assignment – the 673rd Security Forces Squadron at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska. His wife, Callye, was meeting with a friend who was going to rent their condo once they left.

As he sat on the floor organizing his belongings, he looked up and saw smoke coming out of his air vent.

"My first reaction was to get my two dogs out, and grab a binder of important documents I hadn't packed yet. I got the dogs out first, and on my way back, the older of the two ran back in and hid in her bed; she knew something was wrong," Crespo said.

Even though the smoke was much thicker when he returned, he managed to get the dog in one arm and the binder in the other. Once outside and safely away from the burning condo, he borrowed a neighbor's phone to call his wife. When she didn't answer the call, he sent a text – "fire, fire, fire. This is your husband."

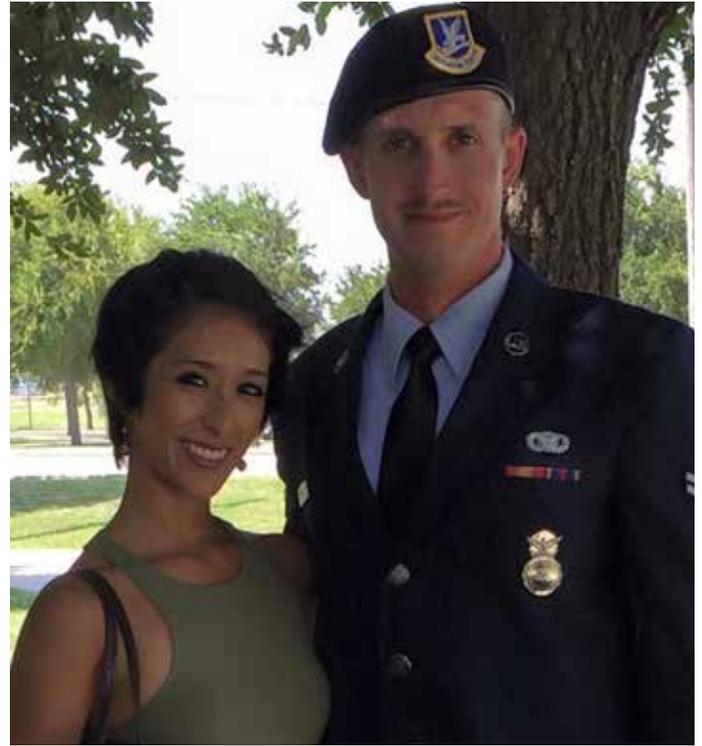
The next call he made was to the recruiter he had worked with on RAP – Master Sgt. Eduardo Torres of E-Flight. Torres called the squadron first sergeant, Master Sgt. Andrew Wojciuch, to let him know what had happened. While Crespo, his wife and their dogs were safe, they lost nearly everything they owned.

Wojciuch told Crespo to get a new driver's license in the morning (his wallet had been lost in the fire), and then asked him to meet him at the main gate at Tinker Air Force Base. Once there, the first sergeant escorted him around base.

"While he was getting his ID card, to save time, I went to the legal office to tell them the story," Wojciuch said. "When he was done getting his ID card, we all walked to the legal office and got them a power of attorney. His wife's family is from Oklahoma City and are going to take care of everything with their insurance for their condo."

They then went to the Airman and Family Readiness center to get clothes from the Airmen's Attic and meet with a counselor. Wojciuch's wife had set up the appointment the night before and prebriefed the counselors.

"I got them a check from Operation Warmheart for \$750 and got in contact with the first sergeant for the security



Airman 1st Class Joshua Crespo and his wife, Callye. (Courtesy photo)

forces squadron at Elmendorf," Wojciuch said. "I sent him a list of things that they would need when they get to Alaska."

"My initial response was first 'Are they OK? Is anyone injured?' After I was informed they made it out OK, I was told they had lost everything," said Crespo's present first sergeant, Senior Master Sgt. David Kalal, 673rd SFS. "At that point I reached out to A1C Crespo to find out specifically what we could do to help him and ease the stress. I reached out to the first sergeant council here at JBER and the 673rd SFS. We received a monetary donation from the first sergeant council as well as overwhelming support from the unit."

"I've never dealt with anything like this before," Wojciuch said. "I've been a first sergeant on Tinker since November 2013. I have a great network on the base and my wife works at the Airman and Family Readiness center. When I told the Crespos' story at the first sergeant meeting on 4 August, my entire team was on board so I knew we would have no problem taking care of them."

Wojciuch said the experience of being a first sergeant at such a critical time in an Airman's life was overwhelming.

'Family' continued on Page 5



Master Sgt. Andrew Wojciuch, left, 349th Recruiting Squadron first sergeant, and Master Sgt. Eduardo Torres, 349th RCS E-Flight, came to the aid of Airman 1st Class Joshua Crespo when he lost everything in a fire. (U.S. Air Force photo)

'Family' continued from Page 4

"The feeling I got from helping the Crespo family is why I became a first sergeant," he said. "The ability to help people in such a short amount of time is priceless. Talk about job fulfillment! They were so grateful when the day was done and they were able to leave Oklahoma on the date that they originally planned. The 349th and Tinker AFB worked extremely hard to put their lives back together the best we could. A1C Crespo and his wife show a lot of strength and their attitude was fantastic."

"My wife and I had lost everything. Our life literally crumbled before our eyes, but all of that was turned around with the help of the new family I gained," Crespo said. "The open arms and loving hearts of all the military families who helped us get back on our feet are forever in our thanks. Ultimately, I would say the phrase 'family comes first' speaks tremendous levels to me, even more so now."



Past and present

Recruiters from the 337th A-Flight had a chance to sit and talk with former squadron members in Columbia, South Carolina, Aug. 28. Most of the former recruiters were assigned to the 337th when Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, was the 365th Recruiting Group headquarters. They recruited from 1971-1989. Seated clockwise from left are: retired Master Sgt. Robert L. Ressler, former enlisted accessions and nurse recruiter; retired Master Sgt. Jake Kyzer, former EA recruiter, Fort Jackson, South Carolina, Military Entrance Processing Station and squadron operations NCO; retired Master Sgt. John Siemers, former EA and Officer Training School recruiter, and Fort Jackson MEPS; Tech. Sgt. Ladiwina Gilly, A-Flight chief; retired Senior Master Sgt. Steve Fowler, former EA recruiter, Fort Jackson MEPS and A-Flight supervisor; Tech. Sgt. Corenthia Fennell, EA recruiter; retired Senior Master Sgt. Harvey Clubb, former Fort Jackson MEPS, squadron operations NCO and A-Flight supervisor; and retired Senior Master Sgt. Charles Adams, former A-Flight supervisor, operations chief and production superintendent. (U.S. Air Force photo)

New recruiting initiative to launch Oct. 1

In August, the Air Force Recruiting Service commander approved the start of the Market Mission Objective Pilot. MMOP is an initiative that will assess the ability of flight chiefs to execute assigned market mission objectives as a team, versus individual recruiters.

Three squadrons were selected to participate in the yearlong initiative – 313th Recruiting Squadron, 331st RCS and 361st RCS. The pilot officially begins Oct. 1 and continues through Fiscal 2016. MMOP is designed to give flight chiefs maximum flexibility in leading their teams.

Lieutenant Colonels Jonathan Austin, Ray Fernandez and Jason Scott will lead their respective squadrons in this initiative. Specific guidance will be given to flight chiefs to help set them up for success and to accurately capture results in order to determine application across AFRS in the future.

The goal of MMOP is to create a recruiting culture

and environment that further strengthens AFRS strategic objectives; streamlines the applicant process; and provides better family support and more opportunity for recruiter professional development. MMOP will give flight chiefs the ability to have more ownership and precise execution of daily tasks, ultimately leading to higher team performance.

Recruiters will still be expected to meet all required certified tasks; recruiters in flights that exceed the mission by 115 percent will be awarded the Silver Badge – a change in how the badge is currently awarded.

Each of the three squadrons participating in the pilot will periodically track metrics to determine the impact on the mission efficiency/effectiveness, customer service and quality of life.

Additional information will be distributed following the launch of the pilot. For questions, contact AFRS/RSO.



ALS graduation

Members of the 361st Recruiting Squadron are shown at the Airman Leadership School graduation of Senior Airman Jasmin Gaillard, A-Flight recruiter, at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, Sept. 3. From left are Lt. Col. Jason Scott, commander; Master Sgt. Brian Rodgers, E-Flight and Line Officer Flight chief; Master Sgt. Dean Cardenas, A-Flight chief; Tech. Sgt. Robert Harrower, A-Flight recruiter; Gaillard; Senior Master Sgt. Jack Wolcott, production superintendent; Master Sgt. Adriaina Rodriguez-Griffin, first sergeant; and Tech. Sgt. Ryan Griffin and Staff Sgt. Alfonso Pelayo, A-Flight recruiters. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Assistance available for finding, paying for child care

Military families who do not have access to on-base child care providers can receive help finding and paying for child care through Air Force fee assistance programs. Offered by Child Care Aware of America, the program was created to provide assistance to authorized active duty and Reserve Airmen in locating, selecting and offsetting the cost of civilian child care when on-base child care is not available or a viable option.

For complete information about the program, to include applying, please visit <http://usa.childcareaware.org/military-programs/military-families/air-force/fee-assistance/>.



Recruiting salutes

Members of the 337th Recruiting Squadron H-Flight were on hand to present an Air Force Recruiting Salutes plaque to the Aquatics Center in Raleigh, North Carolina, Sept. 8. The staff has been an outstanding supporter of special operations testing. From left are Staff Sgt. Todd Barcus, Durham, North Carolina; Tech. Sgt. Andrea Alford, Cary, North Carolina; Angela Allen, H-Flight administrator; Tech. Sgt. Hanif Huggins, Durham; Lt. Col. Cary Belmear, 337th RCS commander; Ronnie Banks and Tricia Maldonado, Aquatic Center employees; Tech. Sgt. Sumpter Burgess, H-Flight chief; Tech. Sgt. Matthew Barcus and Tech. Sgt. Jose Obando, Raleigh, North Carolina; and Staff Sgt. Frederick Geck, Durham. Not pictured is Tim McAllister, Aquatics Center supervisor. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Guest speaker

Staff Sgt. Justin Casey, 341st Recruiting Squadron, stands with Rick Olivares, president of the College Station National Sojourners, and Rep. John Haney, in College Station, Texas, Sept. 3. Casey was invited by the Sojourners to speak about Air Force history for an early Air Force birthday celebration. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Supporting the Air Force

Tech. Sgt. James Mikus, 338th Recruiting Squadron, presents an Air Force Recruiting Salutes plaque to Chad Coy, owner of Club Fitness 24 in Kokomo, Indiana, Sept. 4. Coy supports special operations and line officer applicants by providing services for free or at reduced prices. Mikus is an LO recruiter based in Kokomo. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Formula Drift

The 344th Recruiting Squadron H-Flight was at the Formula Drift Semi Finals at Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth Aug. 22. The Vapor Supercar was set up for lead capturing. Of the 169 registrants, there were 36 qualified leads. The Honor Guard from Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, posted the colors during the national anthem. ABOVE – Lt. Col. Robert Firman, 344th RCS commander, speaks to onlookers before swearing in 10 members of the Delayed Entry Program. LEFT – An example of the signage at the race. (U.S. Air Force photos)





Promotions at the 337th RCS

Three members of the 337th Recruiting Squadron received their new stripes at the Night Hawk promotion ceremony at Pope Army Air Field, North Carolina, Aug. 31. Lt. Col. Cary Belmear, commander, presented the stripes to Master Sgt. Michael Bach (above), E-Flight chief in Charlotte, North Carolina; Master Sgt. Steven Dagnan (top right), Sumter, South Carolina, recruiter; and Tech. Sgt. Andrew Waters (right), Wilmington, North Carolina, recruiter. (U.S. Air Force photos)



To support and defend
Valisia Crittenden takes the oath of enlistment, along with more than 20 other shippers from all branches of the military, at the Military Entrance Processing Station in Nashville, Tennessee, Sept. 8. She left for Basic Military Training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, later that day. This was a rare opportunity to swear-in outside the MEPS facility due to the large volume of shippers, the event was also significant as it was the ship week of the 14th anniversary of 9/11. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Master Sgt. John Roy)



Helping those in need

Staff Sgt. Marvin Contreras of the 362nd Recruiting Squadron (standing third from left) was joined by members of his Delayed Entry Program in volunteering at the Casa Maria Soup Kitchen in Tucson, Arizona, Sept. 3. The kitchen provides meals to more than 900 people daily. Pictured with the group is Claudia Cervantes of the Casa Maria staff. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Military appreciation

Members of the Delayed Entry Program joined Air Force ROTC cadets from San Diego State University for a swearing-in ceremony at the San Diego Padres Military Appreciation Day at Petco Park in San Diego, Sept. 6. The cadets organized the activities, along with members of the 362nd Recruiting Squadron. Maj. Gen. John C. Flournoy Jr., commander, 4th Air Force, March Air Reserve Base, California, officiated at the swearing-in. (U.S. Air Force photo)



X-1 on display

Staff Sgt. Macon Wright, 332nd Recruiting Squadron, speaks to high school students about Air Force opportunities at the X-1 display at Dickson County High School in Dickson, Tennessee, Sept. 10. Hundreds of students viewed the display and learned more about the Air Force. Wright is an enlisted accessions recruiter stationed in Dickson. He has been assigned to Air Force Recruiting Service a little over a year, and uses his background in communications to provide personal testimony to youths considering the Air Force as a career option. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Master Sgt. John Roy)