



## Celebrating the legacy of MLK

Senior Airman Jhirmanda Smith, 369th Recruiting Squadron A-Flight, had a booth at the 32nd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration in Inglewood, California, Jan. 19. Joining her for the event were three Delayed Entry Program members and Airman Michael-Hung Truong, Recruiter Assistance Program. Smith is based in Inglewood. (U.S. Air Force photo)

## New Facebook groups focus on better communication

### Contest announced; submit entries to name the groups by Jan. 30

By Annette Crawford  
Air Force Recruiting Service Public Affairs

Two new Facebook groups are set to launch in mid-February – one for Air Force Recruiting Service personnel and another for AFRS spouses. While AFRS already has a presence with its official [Facebook page](#) and the individual recruiter pages, these groups will focus on internal communication.

“These groups will be a great tool for communicating within our AFRS family,” said Brig. Gen. James C. Johnson, AFRS commander. “By setting them up as private, I feel that will allow group members greater freedom in expressing their views. They’ll be communicating with their peers, and they’ll feel like they have ownership of their group.”

To take the ownership aspect one step further, there will be a contest to name both groups. Recruiting personnel

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# The JAG Report

## Fourth quarter 2014 military justice actions

### Article 15 Actions

During the fourth quarter of 2014, Air Force Recruiting Service commanders administered two non-judicial punishment actions under Article 15 of the UCMJ. The punishments imposed reflect the commander's determination of an appropriate punishment after considering the circumstances of the offense and the offender's record. In addition, one court-martial was completed.

### Non-judicial Punishments

A staff sergeant made a false official statement to his superiors by stating that he had failed his fitness assessment test due to a shoulder surgery. The member was charged with making a false official statement under Article 107 of the UCMJ. The member's punishment consisted of a reduction to E-4, a suspended forfeiture of \$1,213 pay per month for two months, and a reprimand.

A staff sergeant made a false official statement by forging an applicant's signature to enlist into the Air Force and falsifying information related to the signature in AFRISS. He was charged with making a false official statement under

Article 107 and forgery under Article 123 of the UCMJ. The member's punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-4, forfeitures of \$1,213 pay per month, and a reprimand.

### Courts-Martial

A technical sergeant from the 344th Recruiting Squadron was tried and sentenced at a special court-martial Oct. 14. The member pled guilty to two specifications of Article 92. Specifically, he pled guilty to having an unprofessional relationship with an applicant and also pled guilty to providing alcohol to an underage applicant. The member was convicted and sentenced to a reduction in rank of E-4 and 14 days' confinement.

If you are interested in reviewing court-martial actions, all courts-martial are open to the public. You can access them at the Air Force public docket website at: <http://www.afjag.af.mil/docket/index.asp>.

You can also view sexual assault convictions. They are listed by base on the On-Line Sexual Assault Reports of Conviction website at: <http://www.afjag.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-130917-061.pdf>.

## New Fitness Management System now accessible

By Debbie Gildea

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas – The new Air Force Fitness Management System – AFFMS II – is now up and accessible via the Air Force Personnel Center Secure Application, Air Force Personnel Center officials said.

AFFMS II enables Airmen to review their fitness history and records through July 2010.

"The previous system was taken off line Dec. 31 to enable systems specialists to transition content to the new system," said 1st Lt. Nathan Strickland, AFPC Special Programs Branch Chief.

AFFMS II improves accessibility and fitness program managers' ability to manage fitness program records. In addition, it features more stringent security controls to protect members' information from unauthorized changes.

"This system provides Total Force Airmen with a more up-to-date, user-friendly fitness management system that better supports the overall Air Force Fitness program," Strickland said. "System developers worked side-by-side with fitness

program personnel to ensure the system provides users with effective and efficient access."

During the system downtime, base fitness assessment centers and unit fitness program managers maintained hard copies of fitness score sheets for Airmen who tested while the system was down.

"Base fitness assessment centers will work expeditiously to update those Airmen's test scores," the lieutenant explained. "Airmen whose records have not been updated within a month should contact their unit fitness program manager."

To access AFFMS II go to the AFPC secure application and click on AFFMS II or go to the Air Force Portal at <https://my.af.mil>, select "Life and Fitness," and then select AFFMS II from the drop down menu.

For more information about the fitness management system and other personnel issues, go to myPers at <https://mypers.af.mil>. Air Force retirees who do not have a myPers account can find instructions to create an account at [www.retirees.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-120510-068.pdf](http://www.retirees.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-120510-068.pdf).

# Enlisted accessions recruiter earns his wings

By Linda K. Garza  
Air Force Recruiting Service Public Affairs

Master Sgt. Chad Tanner has been a member of Air Force Recruiting Service for 12 years. He began his Air Force career as an Aerospace Propulsion Apprentice, assigned to the RC-135 aircraft, and cross-trained in 2003 into recruiting after three years of working with the RC-135. Tanner knew what direction he wanted to take his maturing Air Force career, but he also knew he was far from finished with the aviation career field.

In selecting a new career, Tanner longed for the ability to help people – remembering how his own recruiter back in Palm Beach, Florida, went above and beyond to get him enlisted in the Air Force.

“I wouldn’t have a lot of things that I do, if it wasn’t for my recruiter doing the things he did for me,” Tanner said.

Tanner said he thought it was a good opportunity to go back and find kids like him who didn’t have many options due to financial constraints or have the resources for college, and help them realize their future potential, just as his recruiter did for him.

While rising through the enlisted ranks as a recruiting flight chief to his selected position at Headquarters AFRS as the event marketing NCO, Tanner simultaneously pursued the requirements set forth by the Federal Aviation Agency to obtain his Airline Transport Pilot Certificate.

The ATP Certificate is the highest level of aircraft pilot license administered by the FAA, and is a culmination of a written, oral and practical exam that usually takes about one week to complete. The exam is overseen by the FAA, using scenario-based presentations to test the student’s knowledge on emergency procedures such as flying the aircraft in the worst weather conditions, simulated fires and highjacking situations.

Tanner began chasing his ATP certificate about 10 years ago. The ATP certificate is not available to just



Master Sgt. Chad Tanner sits at the controls of an Airbus A330. Tanner, an Events Marketing NCO at Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service, is achieving his dream of becoming a commercial airline pilot. (Courtesy photo)

anyone. To meet eligibility requirements for applying and taking the examination, one must already have their Commercial Pilot License, obtain an Instrument Rating and a Multiengine Rating, and build 1,500 hours of flying time.

Focused and determined, Tanner sought out opportunities such as flight instructing, towing banner advertisements, or escorting sky divers in his quest to meet the 1,500-hour flying requirement. This meant often giving up leisure time with family and friends.

“I’ve always had a love or passion for aviation, with a dream to fly for the airlines, since I was a small child, about 7 or 8 years old,” Tanner said.

Tanner said one of his earliest memories is looking over the fence at the airport, dreaming that one day he would not just be looking at the airplanes, but flying them.

In addition to getting the ATP certificate, Tanner also needed to earn a bachelor’s degree in aviation, a prerequisite for flying for commercial airlines in the United States.

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"It always seemed like a goal that was unattainable; the road was extremely difficult and long to get to the point of flying for the airlines," Tanner said. "However, 10 years later, through a lot of education, training and money, it became possible and could be done."

While it may be common for Air Force pilots to make the transition to a commercial airline, it is considered rare for an enlisted person to do so, as flying aircraft is not an inherent skill or function in an enlisted person's career.

Col. Robert Ament, the Mobilization Assistant to the AFRS commander, knows this firsthand. When not serving as an Air Force Reservist, Ament is a commercial airline pilot for American Airlines. He took notice when he learned of Tanner's journey and achievement in earning his ATP Certificate.

"There is no doubt that Master Sgt. Tanner's achievement is absolutely magnanimous," Ament said. "He has achieved something outside of his primary duties at AFRS that is an amazing achievement within the character of doing his full time work with the Air Force."

Tanner used Air Force tuition assistance in his pursuit, which he maxed out every year for four years. When those benefits were exhausted, Tanner used his Montgomery G.I. Bill entitlement, as well as his Post 9/11 flight training benefit.

Although Tanner's service benefits financed a large portion of his education quest, he also incurred personal loans to reach his ultimate goal. Tanner also credits his mentor, Maj. Frank Saul, for helping him achieve his dream.

"A good pilot is always learning. I took that to heart – there is always something you can read," Tanner said. "I would fly airplanes for free if I had to. If you do what you love for a living, you never have to work a day in your life."

Tanner plans to finish his active duty commitment and retire from his Air Force at 20 years, and hopes to get a position as a first officer with a regional airline.

"It's the best office view anyone can have," Tanner said. "No room for mistakes, you have to be your best every single time – no room for a bad day – just perform. "The reward is at the end of the flight when you come out of the clouds and land the plane."

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may submit entries for the AFRS group, and spouses may submit entries for their group. As there are many Air Force recruiting-based pages and groups on Facebook, submitters are encouraged to be original in their entries.

Deadline for the contest is Jan. 30, and the winners will be announced in the next issue of Behind the Badge Feb. 9.

Facebook groups are different from the pages that most people have for personal use, said Christa D'Andrea, chief, AFRS Public Affairs.

"Groups are dedicated places where people share interests, whereas pages allow organizations to communicate with the public at large," D'Andrea said. "When you 'like' a page, it allows you to follow that organization, and all the information

on that page is public and available to everyone. But when you're a member of a group, there are privacy settings that will make the posts only visible to other group members."

She added that group members can still participate in chats, upload photos or collaborate with one another. Each group will have a select number of administrators. For the AFRS group, the admins will be the AFRS commander and Public Affairs. Two key spouses will administrate the AFRS spouses group; Public Affairs will also be an admin, but will mainly act in a consulting vs. active posting role.

More information on how to join the groups will be announced along with the winning entries in the next issue of Behind the Badge, which, by the way, was also named through a contest. The newsletter was previously called "Recruiter."





### Helping homeless vets

Recruiters from the 319th Recruiting Squadron A-Flight conducted a drive for Liberty House, New Hampshire's first facility for homeless veterans, located in Manchester. The collection gathered enough coats, food and toiletries to fill a trailer. ABOVE – From left are Staff Sgt. Janyll Smiling and Staff Sgt. Tracy Kelly, recruiters in Bedford; Airman 1st Class Daniel Dionne, Recruiter Assistance Program; Staff Sgt. Adam Buehler, line officer recruiter at Hanscom Air Force Base, Massachusetts; and the Liberty House managers. LEFT – The truck of donations is unloaded at Liberty House Jan. 6. (Courtesy photos)



### Graduation time

Staff Sgt. Christopher Nelloms, second from right, stands with three of his former Delayed Entry Program members at their Basic Military Training graduation at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, Jan. 16. Nelloms, with the 341st Recruiting Squadron H-Flight, is based in Webster, Texas. He drove more than three hours to see the graduation. From left are Airman Basic Philip Nguyen, Airman Basic Nicholas Lafluer, Nelloms, and Airman Basic Lazaro Galvan. (U.S. Air Force photo)



### Guest speaker

Staff Sgt. Augustine Ortega, 341st Recruiting Squadron E-Flight, speaks to newly graduated Airmen from Basic Military Training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, Jan. 9. Ortega spoke about the Air Force Core Values and his career experiences. He was invited by the 737th Training Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo)





### Newest recruiter in 341st RCS

Senior Master Sgt. Bradley Burton, 341st Recruiting Squadron production superintendent, presents Tech. Sgt. Dalia Cortez with her recruiter certification Jan. 14. Cortez is assigned to C-Flight in Harlingen, Texas. (U.S. Air Force photo)



### Swearing in

Eighteen members of the Delayed Entry Program are sworn in by Lt. Col. Jason Scott, 361st Recruiting Squadron commander, at the Portland Trailblazers NBA basketball game in Portland, Oregon, Jan. 10. The recruiters organizing the event were Tech. Sgt. Andy Hernandez and Tech. Sgt. Alicia Wells. (U.S. Air Force photo)





### Before and after Raptor

Members of the 341st Recruiting Squadron Marketing team, along with Staff Sgt. Patrick Paez, A-Flight recruiter, and Master Sgt. Dara Lora, A-Flight chief, worked together to transform their Raptor. With only two weeks to the largest auto show in the U.S., the team was able to get the Raptor wrapped for free and negotiated a reduction on the entrance fee, saving more than 20 percent of the squadron's marketing budget. The Raptor was on display at the Houston Auto Show Jan. 20-23. The photo above is the Raptor before the transformation, and the two larger photos show the Raptor afterwards. (U.S. Air Force photos)





### Recruiting salutes

Not many 52-year-olds can say they train future Air Force Special Operations candidates but Eddy Castillo can. Eddy's son Eddie was training to become a Pararescueman, and needed help with the swimming portion of the Physical Ability Stamina Test. What started as a father helping his son toward his dream turned into the elder Castillo helping several young men become stronger swimmers and get that much closer to becoming future operators. He volunteers his time free of charge; all he asks in return is maximum effort at the pool. So far he has trained five future Airmen – three pararescue candidates and two combat controllers. For his efforts, Castillo was presented with the Air Force Recruiting Salutes plaque Dec. 30 in Victorville, California. From left are Airman Basic Alan Manzo; Airman 1st Class Eddie Castillo; Eddy Castillo; Staff Sgt. Jose Lopes-Fontenot, 362nd Recruiting Squadron C-Flight recruiter in Victorville; and Alexander Bertsch, Delayed Entry Program member. (U.S. Air Force photo)



### Promoting volunteerism

Recruiters from the 361st Recruiting Squadron F-Flight teamed with members of their Delayed Entry Program to provide an area high school with much-needed assistance. F-Flight received a request from South Umpqua High School in Myrtle Creek, Oregon, to pressure-wash exterior walls and paint the entrance and three rooms. Tech. Sgt. Ryan Breaux (bottom center) rallied his DEP for the project Jan. 17, along with Tech. Sgt. Christopher Johnson (bottom left), F-Flight chief. They provided more than 70 hours of time. Breaux said the event solidified a valuable relationship with a school in a previously vacant zone. It also developed the future Airmen by promoting volunteerism and the Air Force Core Value of "Service Before Self." (U.S. Air Force photo)



### Newest asset

Tech. Sgt. Brandon Pike, 344th Recruiting Squadron A-Flight recruiter, was on hand with several of his Delayed Entry Program members at the Commitment Day 5K Run in Garland, Texas, Jan. 3. He brought the squadron's newest inflatable asset for display, which worked out well when the event was hindered by weather and several participants came inside. (U.S. Air Force photos)



### Working partnership

Staff Sgt. Cameron Wiley, 344th Recruiting Squadron Marketing NCO, stands with members of Team Takedown, a Mixed Martial Arts and fitness gym in Kennedale, Texas. Wiley is working with Team Takedown on lead-generating events to help target Battlefield Airmen. The team is known throughout MMA for its partnership with former Ultimate Fighting Championship welterweight champion Jhonny Hendricks. (U.S. Air Force photo)





**Certificate of appreciation**  
 ABOVE – Lt. Col. Jason Scott, 361st Recruiting Squadron commander, presents a certificate of appreciation to Douglas Burnham, principal of Tahoma High School in Covington, Washington, Jan. 13. Burnham allowed Staff Sgt. Michael O'Brien, C-Flight recruiter (shown at right), to conduct a presentation for more than 50 athletes on Battlefield Airmen opportunities with Tech. Sgt. Daniel Staggs, a Joint Terminal Attack Controller. O'Brien garnered 17 qualified special operations leads. LEFT – O'Brien presents the briefing to Tahoma High School athletes. (U.S. Air Force photo)



**Military Appreciation Day**

Staff Sgt. Neil French, 339th Recruiting Squadron, was featured at the Plymouth High School Military Appreciation Day in Plymouth, Michigan, Jan. 16. All branches of the military were invited and honored during the event. ABOVE – French is shown with the Plymouth High School cheerleaders who are wearing Air Force special operations T-shirts. LEFT – French stands with U.S. Army Brig. Gen. David Bassett, program executive officer for Ground Combat Systems. French is assigned to B-Flight in Livonia, Michigan. (U.S. Air Force photo)