

# JBSA LEGACY

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

DECEMBER 4, 2020



PHOTO BY LISA BRAUN

(Front, left to right) Petty Officer 1st Class Wesley Middleton and Petty Officer 2nd Class Domenick Llanda, instructors in the Medical Education and Training Campus Surgical Technologist program, conduct a mock laparoscopic procedure while Petty Officer 1st Class Forest Stewart (center), also an instructor, assists the team.

## Laparoscopy new standard in METC surgical tech

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## Special warfare course changes Airman training

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## JBSA, AETC collaborate on active shooter training

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# Rated Preparatory Program now accepting applications for fiscal year 2021 spring class

By Secretary of the Air Force  
Public Affairs

Active duty Department of the Air Force officers and enlisted Airmen and Space Professionals interested in becoming a rated officer have until Dec. 31, 2020 to apply for the Spring 2021 Rated Preparatory Program.

This will be the third year that the Air Force has partnered with the Civil Air Patrol for this training. The 2021 class will take place at the Denton Enterprise Airport in Denton, Texas.

"The Rated Preparatory Program provides Department of the Air Force officers and for the first time enlisted applicants, who are interested in cross-training to a rated career field the opportunity to gain and strengthen their basic aviation skills," said Col. Scott Linck, Aircrew Task Force deputy director. "This program will allow them to enhance their knowledge through developmental modules and acquire valuable flight time in order to increase their competitiveness as candidates for future undergraduate flying training boards."

Applicants selected for the RPP will first complete an online self-paced ground course followed by a one-week in-resident course to introduce them to aviation fundamentals. Program participants will garner approximately seven to nine flight hours, ground instruction and additional

training time in a flight simulator.

Officers who complete the program are required to apply to the next available Undergraduate Flying Training selection board. Enlisted participants who complete the program are required to apply to at least one of three Air Force commissioning sources: U.S. Air Force Academy, Reserve Officer Training Corps or Officer Training School.

Airmen who can meet the requirements below are encouraged to apply:

1. Any active duty officer who meets UFT board requirements.
2. Any active duty enlisted Airman or Space Professional who meets UFT board requirements and qualifies for a commission through one of the three commissioning sources (Reference PSDM 20-96 for further information).
3. Be a U.S. Citizen.
4. Be of high moral character and personal qualifications (members currently having open law violations or criminal investigations, previously convicted by court-martial or having received an Article 15 are ineligible to apply).
5. Have the unit commander's approval and endorsement.
6. Have a current passing Physical Fitness Test score.
7. Have a Pilot Candidate Selection Method score prior to the RPP class start date.
8. Have less than 5 hours of total civilian

flight time (applicants with greater than 5 hours of civilian flight time may apply, but will only be considered on a space available basis).

9. Officers: Obtain a U.S. Air Force Initial Flying Class I, 1A, Ground Based Controller or III flight physical prior to entry into the RPP.

10. Enlisted: Obtain an FAA Class III physical prior to entry into the RPP (Reference PSDM 20-96; consult a local Aviation Medical Examiner).

11. Complete an on-line self-paced ground course that will be provided prior to the class start date.

12. Be prepared to retake the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test and Test of Basic Aviation Skills at the first available opportunity upon completion of RPP, preferably within two to four weeks.

"When comparing applicant scores pre-and post-RPP, results show, on average, a 20% improvement in student AFOQT scores and a 35-point increase in PCSM scores," said Maj. Sean Stumpf, Aircrew Task Force talent management branch chief. "Approximately 90 percent of officers who went through the program in 2019 and applied for UFT were selected. We are hoping for the same results from the most recent class that went through the program this summer."

Interested applicants can find additional information on how to apply through the MyPers website.

## Six candidate locations chosen for U.S. Space Command headquarters

By Secretary of the Air Force  
Public Affairs

The Department of the Air Force, on behalf of the Office of Secretary of Defense, has selected six candidate locations for the U.S. Space Command Headquarters.

The six locations include Post San Antonio, Texas; Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico; Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska; Patrick Air Force Base, Florida; Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado; and Redstone Army Airfield, Alabama.

Self-nominated communities from across 24 states were evaluated as potential locations for hosting the headquarters.

The Department of the Air Force evaluated each location and will now

conduct both virtual and on-site visits at each candidate location to assess which location is best suited to host the U.S. Space Command Headquarters. This assessment will be based on factors related to mission, infrastructure capacity, community support, and costs to the Department of Defense.

The Department of the Air Force

anticipates selecting the preferred location for U.S. Space Command Headquarters in early 2021.

In the interim, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, will remain the provisional location for U.S. Space Command Headquarters until a permanent location is selected and facilities are ready to support the mission.



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## JBSA LEGACY

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# Feedback Fridays

**Brig. Gen. Caroline M. Miller**

502D AIR BASE WING AND JOINT BASE  
SAN ANTONIO COMMANDER

Feedback Fridays is a weekly forum that aims to connect the 502d Air Base Wing with members of the Joint Base San Antonio community. Questions are collected during commander's calls, town hall meetings and throughout the week.

If you have a question or concern, please send an email to [jbsapublicaffairs@gmail.com](mailto:jbsapublicaffairs@gmail.com) using the subject line "Feedback Fridays." Questions will be further researched and published as information becomes available.

**Q. I have been debating over the last several months how to best address my concerns on the state of the two Fort Sam Houston golf courses.**

**My concerns are as follows.**

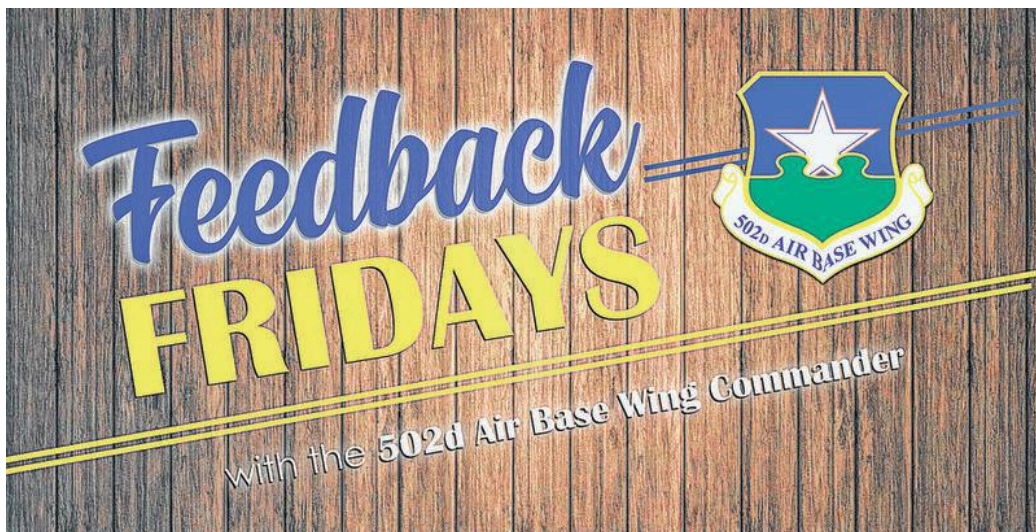
**1. The driving range area is in need of repair. The protective netting around the driving range was damaged over a year ago by very high winds and have not been repaired. This can be a hazard to golfers teeing off on several of the holes or players walking in and around the driving area.**

Several years ago, automatic tee machines replaced the old worn out driving mats. They lasted approximately two years and suddenly they were replaced by the old, nonfunctional driving mats. When asked why they were removed, the answer was that they were too costly to repair.

**2. The men's bathroom and locker room bathroom need to be upgraded. The bathrooms often smell bad and really need to be remodeled. Many military and civilian events are held at the golf course clubhouse and it does not reflect well on the U.S. military when the bathrooms are in the condition that they are in.**

**3. The myairforcegolf.com website for tee times in not under control of JBSA, but needs to be mentioned. It does not meet the needs of the membership, it is not user friendly and is often not functioning. It does not reflect the need of the two courses.**

At Fort Sam Houston on Mondays, one of the two golf courses are



COURTESY GRAPHIC

closed for maintenance or tournaments. Members do not know what course is going to be closed. This is not reflected when tee times are made on [myairforcegolf.com](http://myairforcegolf.com). Members make reservations and find they were made on a closed course.

My recommendation is to have the golf course management publish (posted at the Pro shop and on the website) when and what course will be closed seven to ten days in advance so when tee times are requested we know what courses are open for play, the same for tournaments. It is not fair to the members to go the golf course with a confirmed tee time and find it has been changed.

**4. The golf course itself has some very good holes with fair to good fairways and greens, while some holes need some work. Lots of trees are still down from the storm more than a year ago and need to be removed. When trees fall or are removed, new trees should be planted.**

I know that these concerns may seem frivolous in the times we are currently facing. However, golf courses are a place where it is easy to maintain social distancing,

**provide much needed relief, and provide a boost to a suffering economy.**

**A.** Thank you for your concerns. We are currently in the final stages of repairing the netting damaged during storms in 2018. It was a long process, but the contract has been awarded, and the contractor should be beginning the work within a month.

We agree that the netting is an eyesore and it was a priority to get fixed. However, we hope you can understand that issues like this sometimes take a while due to the many requirements that need to be met to be able to award a government contract. New mats for the driving range are currently on order.

Secondly, we can assure that there are many upgrades we would like to do to the facility, and the bathrooms are on the list. We do not have a timeline for when that will happen, but we are considering all aspects of our facilities that need renovation.

Next, we will definitely pass on your feedback to the folks that manage the [myairforcegolf.com](http://myairforcegolf.com) page.

We would like to take this opportunity to ask that you make sure you have the JBSA Golf Clubs app on your smartphone. We are currently working to make booking your tee times

available on that platform. That is where you will find the most up to date information on course closures if there is maintenance being performed, as well as find great information on promotions and programs.

We are also working on a new webpage specifically for JBSA Golf that will include a calendar, where we can share maintenance closures with you. In the meantime, we will work on better publicizing those planned closures.

Your feedback will be passed on to our maintenance team. It helps tremendously to give them perspective from our customers.

As with the improvements to the facility, the same goes for our course. We consider this to be of the utmost importance, as the course is what brings individuals to our facilities.

I know the team is tackling a lot out there with the intention of giving you the best product possible, and planting new trees is not something that will be overlooked. I would encourage you to stop in and visit with Steven Griffith, the manager for FSH golf course, and share your views or call 210-222-9386.

We will be passing all that you have shared on this forum, but having that open dialogue is important so he can make sure and use the feedback to shape plans and decisions.

# AF restores military tuition assistance cap, AF COOL funding

By Secretary of the Air Force  
Public Affairs

The Department of the Air Force restored military tuition assistance to \$4,500 per fiscal year and Air Force Credentialing Opportunities Online preparatory course funding for the fiscal year 2021, effective immediately.

The Air Force noted increased usage of tuition assistance since the start of COVID-19 and continuing into the new fiscal year.

"We are excited our members are taking advantage of their time under COVID-19 to improve themselves and pursue education. The Department of the Air Force was able to reprioritize funding to encourage our service members to maximize their development through these educational benefits," said Lt. Gen. Brian T. Kelly, deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. "The Department of



COURTESY GRAPHIC

the Air Force is committed to education and to the continued professional and personal growth of our Airmen and Space Professionals in support of our nation's defense."

As a result of the reinstatement, both programs will resume the same benefits as before.

For military tuition assistance, Airmen and Space

Professionals are eligible for up to \$4,500 per fiscal year and a maximum of \$250 per semester hour or quarter-hour equivalent to cover tuition and allowable fees. For AF COOL, funding for preparatory courses, also known as boot camps, is restored. AF COOL funding limits remain at \$4,500 per lifetime.

"Voluntary education and

military tuition assistance programs continue to be important to the development of our force," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force JoAnne S. Bass. "I'm glad we were able to take a look at the budget again and allow our Airmen to focus on self-improvement, especially during a time where our world has become increasingly virtual during COVID-19."

Additionally, Department of the Air Force officials noted comparing school costs, utilizing other resources such as Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support's, or DANTES, subject standardized tests, or DSST, college-level examination programs, or CLEP, pursuing Community College of the Air Force degrees and other funding sources, such as scholarships and grants, all help maximize education benefits.

"I am thankful for great leaders who put service members first," said Chief Master Sgt. Roger Towberman, senior enlisted advisor of the United States Space Force. "I couldn't be happier to see us enable the best growth, education, and development possible."

For more information, consult Air Force Instruction 36-2670, "Total Force Development."

## Air Force releases 'Red Tail Angels' docuseries

By Staff Sgt.  
Jeremy L. Mosier

SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In commemoration of the 75th anniversary of World War II, the U.S. Air Force video production team produced a video series to highlight the Tuskegee Airmen and their impact on the war, and society as a whole.

"The Red Tail Angels" documentary series showcases the hardships, struggles and ultimately the successes of the Tuskegee Airmen.

"The Tuskegee Airmen represent a part of American history, which for far too many years languished in obscurity after WWII," said Anthony

Young, Air Force Television senior producer. "This documentary is an attempt to tell their story through the words of those who lived it, highlighting not only the obstacles they faced, but the perseverance they exhibited in overcoming it. Though they have been revered for their exploits during the war, I think their legacy is evident not only throughout the U.S. armed forces, but within society as a whole, given the many doors their success has led to the opening of."

The first of the three-part series is available on the Air Force Blue Tube Channel at [www.youtube.com/c/AFBlueTube](http://www.youtube.com/c/AFBlueTube). The second and third segments will soon follow.



COURTESY GRAPHIC



# FORT SAM HOUSTON

## Laparoscopy new standard in METC training

By Lisa Braun

MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
CAMPUS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Army, Navy and Air Force surgical technologist students at the Medical Education and Training Campus at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston are becoming more familiar with laparoscopic procedures thanks to a curriculum update and new laparoscopic equipment that was added to the surgical training simulators.

A laparoscopy is a low-risk, non-invasive surgical procedure used to examine organs inside the abdomen and repair or remove tissue.

It requires only small incisions and utilizes an instrument called a laparoscope, which is a long, thin tube with a high-intensity light and a high-resolution camera at the front. The surgeon inserts the laparoscope through an incision in the abdominal wall and views the images on a video monitor while conducting the procedure.

Laparoscopic surgery was introduced to the METC surgical technologist program in May 2020 to familiarize all students with the procedures and equipment as part of the program's consolidated Phase I, or didactic, training.

Sgt. 1st Class Merle Nalder, the program director, said it was time to move away from the open appendectomy surgery that had been the standard used to evaluate students for roughly 25 years.

"The open appendectomy is not the standard out in the surgical world anymore," Nalder said. "More and more, they're going to laparoscopic procedures. Even in the military field environment, we're moving toward laparoscopies. The



LISA BRAUN

military medical services all recognized the need to change."

Nalder explained that all surgical technologist, or ST, students receive blocks of instruction on the minimally invasive laparoscopic surgery. At the culmination of Phase I, students are evaluated on their ability to perform, from start to finish, an exploratory laparotomy, or open belly case, which is a low-fidelity simulated surgery.

Updates were made to convert a simulated general operating room, previously used for mock open appendectomies, into a laparoscopic simulator by adding a laparoscopic tower, which includes a camera and light source, specialized laparoscopic instruments, and reusable devices.

Also added were sophisticated mannequins

which provide more realism to the mock open laparotomy and laparoscopy cases, helping to better prepare the students. The mannequins can support up to 50 different types of laparoscopic procedures and allow for life-like scenarios.

"The parts are a little more realistic, the skin feels much more realistic, and they have a blood pump which causes blood to flow throughout the mannequin's system," Nalder said. "The blood fills the cavity very quickly and the flow will then actually rupture a blood vessel or artery, depending on the scenario, lending that realism to the simulation."

With the blood pump, Nalder said, instructors can simulate different types of situations causing organ damage or distress, whereas in the past they could only simulate one

type of procedure with the open appendectomy.

"Our new curriculum requires us to evaluate our students on an open laparotomy, and with these mannequins, we can choose which cases we want the students to experience," Nalder said. "This gives instructors the latitude to expose students to multiple types of surgeries in comparison to what we had before."

Nalder said that aspect has changed this portion of the training from a passive to an active type of learning where students are more involved.

"I feel that the students appreciate it more and they get more out of it rather than the simple step by step open appendectomy scenario."

Not only has the standard surgical procedure been updated in the consolidated

*Petty Officer 1st Class Wesley Middleton, left, removes a simulated liver during a mock laparotomy assisted by Petty Officer 2nd Class Domenick Llanda. Both Sailors are instructors in the Medical Education and Training Campus Surgical Technologist program.*

portion of the training, but the Navy has updated its service-specific training as well.

Twenty-one hours of laparoscopic surgery training were added to the Navy-specific curriculum. The training includes a mock laparoscopic surgery and a didactic test which are not part of the consolidated training.

"We updated the curriculum based on direct feedback from the fleet to ensure the training courses align with fleet requirements," said Lt. Cmdr. Rachel Bradshaw, the program's Navy service lead.

Navy students may good candidates to receive additional training because enlisted Sailors arrive with prior medical training.

"Before they arrive in the surgical technologist program, or any enlisted medical program, Navy students have to go through the METC Hospital Corpsman Basic program where they learn basic medical knowledge consisting of pre-hospital, inpatient and outpatient medical care," Bradshaw explained.

Navy students are taught how to assemble and process complex laparoscopic instruments, recognize thoracic surgery pathologies, and safely prepare for minimal invasive clinical procedures.

According to Bradshaw, the added benefit of implementing the new curriculum is that the students are exposed to laparoscopic surgery prior to entering the clinical portion of the program.

"This exposure allows for our students to enter the operating room with some familiarity to laparoscopic procedures, to include the equipment and setup," Bradshaw added.

# ARNORTH expands military COVID-19 operations

By U.S. Army North (Fifth Army) Public Affairs

At the request of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Defense is deploying approximately 60 U.S. Air Force medical personnel to support hospitals across multiple locations in North Dakota.

U.S. Army North, the Joint Force Land Component Command of U.S. Northern Command, will oversee the military operation in support of federal efforts and the state.

"Our actions demonstrate our steadfast commitment to help communities in need as part of the whole-of-America response to the COVID-19 pandemic in support of FEMA," said Lt. Gen. Laura J. Richardson, ARNORTH and JFLCC commander. "North Dakotans can expect the same high quality care we've provided in other cities across the U.S. as we continue to coordinate alongside our local, state, and federal partners to respond to the pandemic and help save lives."

Twenty ICU nurses and 40



MASTER SGT. HELEN MILLER

medical surgical nurses have been split among major hospitals throughout the state hospitals in the on-going fight against COVID-19. The personnel, who are primarily nurses, including critical care nurses, will provide much-needed assistance. The hospitals are Essentia

Health-Fargo and Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, CHI St. Alexius Health Medical Center and Sanford Medical Center in Bismarck, Altru Hospital in Grand Forks, and Trinity Hospital-St Joseph's in Minot.

The military medical personnel will come from

several locations, to include Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland and JBAS-Randolph, Texas; Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio; Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia; Eglin Air Force Base, Florida; Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi; and Joint Base Andrews, Maryland.

*Nurses from the U.S. Air Force arrive in North Dakota and proceed through the Department of Defense's Joint Reception, Staging, and Onward Integration process, followed by the North Dakota Department of Health's in-processing.*

Under the command of ARNORTH, elements of Task Force 46, formed primarily by the Michigan Army National Guard's 46th Military Police Command, will deploy to Bismarck, North Dakota, to assist in the arrival of the Air Force Medical Specialty Teams. Designated as "Task Force Center," this scalable organization will provide oversight of the military medical teams.

Additionally, elements of the U.S. Army Reserve's 377th Theater Sustainment Command from New Orleans, and the 4th Expeditionary Sustainment Command from San Antonio, along with elements of the 1st Infantry Division's Sustainment Brigade from Fort Riley, Kansas, will provide multi-component sustainment services to the military medical teams.

The Task Force and the sustainment commands also continue to support the military COVID-19 response effort in El Paso, which ARNORTH announced earlier this month, following an approved FEMA request for assistance.

## Local Navy recruiters perform life-saving skills on shooting victim

By Burrell Parmer

NAVY TALENT ACQUISITION GROUP  
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC AFFAIRS

When aboard ship or ashore, Sailors are expected to be able to react to any situation, ranging from enemy engagement to applying medical care to an injured shipmate.

For two Sailors assigned to Navy Talent Acquisition Group San Antonio at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, their Navy training kicked in Nov. 5 after a shooting near a local high school.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Brandon Rodriguez and Petty Officer 2nd Class Robert Davis had just concluded a school

visit to Highlands High School, and upon driving away from the school, they witnessed a shooting of a man outside his residence.

After hearing the gunshots, the recruiters cautiously approached the residence and saw the victim laying in the driveway, after which they instructed the neighbors to call 911. The recruiters began to apply pressure to the wound and treat the victim for shock until emergency medical services arrived five minutes later.

"We happen to be in the right place at the right time," said Davis, who has been a recruiter for 18 months. "The basic lifesaving skills we attained in the Navy definitely

prepared us for the moment."

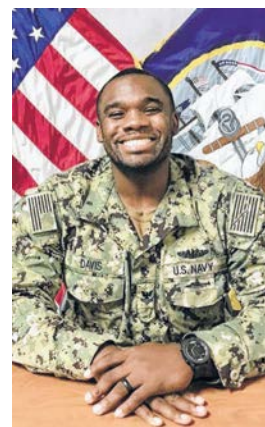
"I knew we could do something," said Rodriguez, who received basic medical training while aboard the nuclear aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77). "Our initial thoughts were on the whereabouts of the shooter, but we knew we had to act fast."

After EMS arrived, the Sailors reported the observations of the incident the San Antonio Police.

NTAG San Antonio's area of responsibility includes more than 30 Navy Recruiting Stations and Navy Officer Recruiting Stations spread throughout 144,000 square miles of Central and South Texas territory.



Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Brandon Rodriguez



COURTESY PHOTOS

Petty Officer 2nd Class Robert Davis

# Garrison commanders discuss improvements to Army quality of life

By Scott Malcom

U.S. ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

More than 150 leaders from Army posts around the world connected virtually with the leadership of U.S. Army Installation Management Command at IMCOM's annual Garrison Commander Conference Nov. 16-20.

The host for the mission command event was Lt. Gen. Doug Gabram, IMCOM commanding general, who led the group through interactive discussions on several topics important to Army Soldiers, families and civilians.

"Leadership is the most decisive weapon in our arsenal," Gabram said. "This conference is about making us better leaders by pulling from the wisdom of the crowd through the sharing of best practices and lessons learned."

Gen. Ed Daly, commanding general of Army Materiel Command — the Army Command that oversees IMCOM and 10 other subordinate commands — kicked things off Nov. 16 by addressing the group about the importance of diversity in our workforce.

"Diverse organizations perform better," he said. "Every hiring action should orient on that truth."

"You are the unsung heroes of the Army," Daly said, summing up a long list of recent and significant accomplishments by the IMCOM global team. "I like to call you the linemen of the Army; you're in the trenches grinding out the hard but essential work that moves the



SARAH LUNA

*More than 150 Army commanders took part in the U.S. Army Installation Management Command's annual Garrison Commander Conference Nov. 16-20.*

ball down the field."

Other speakers also engaged the group, focusing on important aspects of garrison command and leadership in general.

Retired Army Gen. Vince Brooks joined the group from his home in Austin to provide his view of garrison command based on years' experience as a senior commander.

Brooks characterized Army installations as "economic engines for their communities." He went on to say "garrison commanders are uniquely positioned and equipped to be 'conveners' who bring together partners inside and outside the gate to

strengthen the community."

Beyond these discussions, the leaders focused on a number of IMCOM and Army priorities, including a review of the IMCOM playbook for fighting COVID on Army bases, the strategy to build back Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation capabilities while maximizing the efficiency of resources that have been reduced due to the pandemic, and a number of topics related to improving housing and barracks.

These last discussions centered on the Facility Investment Plan and the Housing Implementation Plan.

The FIP is a 10-year prioritized plan coordinated across the Army to invest in required infrastructure in a way that maximizes the effectiveness of every dollar.

The HIP is a partnership with the Army's privatized housing companies to strategically invest in new construction and renovation projects over the next five years. The HIP is implemented through regular weekly meetings with senior leaders from the Army and RCI companies, along with garrison commanders and their local privatized housing manager.

"While I'd like to have you all here on the Riverwalk where I could look you in the eye and spend personal time with you, these tools that allow us to come together virtually are powerful, and they allow a broader cross section of the command to benefit from these interactions. This week has exceeded my expectations," Gabram said in closing the conference Nov. 19.



# U.S. Army Medical Department Museum receives prestigious re-accreditation

By Jose E. Rodriguez

U.S. ARMY MEDICAL CENTER OF EXCELLENCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The U.S. Army Medical Department Museum at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston was recently re-accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, or AAM. This important milestone means the museum continues to meet national standards and best practices for museums in the United States.

Across the nation, there are 35,000 museums and only 1,087 have received AAM accreditation. The AMEDD Museum joins other world-renowned San Antonio museums such as the Witte Museum, the San Antonio Museum of Art and the McNay Art Museum in this honor.

The AMEDD Museum has been working on re-accreditation since 2017, with its first accreditation in 2003. Usually re-accreditation is done every 10 years, however, due to the economic downturn in 2007, the AAM gave five-year extensions to museums in order to assist them through the economic difficulties.

For this reason, the AMEDD Museum began the re-accreditation effort in 2017 and began submitting the required documents in 2018.

The accreditation process is a detailed, multi-step process that is intense under normal circumstances. With the museum changing from the U.S. Army

Medical Command to the U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence in 2018, along with the transformation of the MEDCoE to the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command in fiscal year 2020, this task became exponentially more involved and difficult.

The documents required by AAM such as the ethics, collections, emergency plan, and strategic plan policies had to be modified or re-written with each change of command structure. Each move required a new set of documents and revision and review of all major procedure and policy documents. Accreditation under these difficult circumstances makes the accreditation even more meaningful to the museum staff.

"I have been directing an AAM museum since 2002, first in Maryland and now in San Antonio," said George Wunderlich, U.S. Army Medical Department Museum director, of this important goal.

Wunderlich has been on the board of three other AAM accredited museums.

"I believe that the importance of national accreditation cannot be overemphasized," he continued. "To know that the AMEDD Museum staff, the AMEDD Museum Foundation and the MEDCoE were able to overcome the difficulties of repeated organizational changes and meet the rigorous standards of the AAM is highly gratifying. It is an honor to work with such a great team and support

such a great mission."

In the re-accreditation letter the AAM Accreditation Commission stated the museum did an admirable job addressing the issues identified in the original tabling decision.

In particular, the work done to broaden the museum's appeal beyond the military audience and engage community resources and leaders in planning is commendable. Reaccreditation means the museum continues to meet National Standards and Best Practices for U.S. Museums and remains a member of a community of institutions that have chosen to hold themselves publicly accountable to excellence.

Through a rigorous process of self-assessment and review by its peers, the museum has shown itself to be a good steward of its resources held in the public trust and committed to a philosophy of continual institutional growth.

"This distinction is a guarantee to the Army, the museum's visitors and supporters, and the American public, that the museum holds the highest standards of excellence in all areas of Museum operation," Wunderlich said.

"We are dedicated to the good stewardship of the funds and collections entrusted to our care, and we are dedicated to the educational mission of the museum for all," he added. "This accreditation is not simply an achievement, it is a dedication to continue to strive for continued excellence and service to the communities we serve: the military, civilians, students, and the public."

To learn more about the Army Medical Department Museum, visit <https://ameddmuseum.amedd.army.mil/>.



FRANCIS TRACHTA

(From left) Museum specialist Chris Goodrow, exhibit specialist Lupe Perez, and archivist Carlos Alvarado work on the finishing touches for featured posters on display in the World War I gallery exhibit at the U.S. Army Medical Department Museum at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.



# Developmental training assignments mutually benefit MICC, FORSCOM

By Daniel P. Elkins

MISSION AND INSTALLATION  
CONTRACTING COMMAND PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS OFFICE

A developmental training partnership for Soldiers in the finance and comptroller career field continues to provide them valuable experience while also serving to slash contract closeouts for a handful of Mission and Installation Contracting Command offices.

The U.S. Army Forces Command Finance and Comptroller Soldier Training and Development Program sources Soldiers in the 36 military occupational specialty to various organizations including garrison or division resource management offices or contracting offices co-located with their respective financial management support unit.

The program came about in 2013 as a pilot designed to counter the impacts of a government shutdown, sequestration, employee furloughs and a hiring freeze.

Marlena Walker, a financial management analyst with FORSCOM Resource Management who manages the program at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, said the phased training approach has benefitted finance and comptroller Soldiers immensely over the past seven years.

"I firmly believe that no one course prepares finance and comptroller Soldiers to fully execute their mission. As such, this program has been instrumental in either filling a gap in training or providing the foundation necessary for finance and comptroller Soldiers to execute their

assigned duties," Walker said.

As financial management technicians, Soldiers are responsible for ensuring the Army's financial matters. This involves budgeting, disbursing and accounting for government funds, maintaining and preparing files and financial reports, and reviewing contracts and invoices.

C.T. Fortune, a senior plans officer and procurement analyst with the MICC Operations and Security Directorate at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, serves as the program manager for the command in this partnership working directly with FORSCOM. He said the expertise these Soldiers bring to the MICC allows the command to place greater emphasis on its contract execution priorities.

"One of Army Materiel Command's top priorities is the reduction of contract unliquidated obligations and expiring funds in order to make funds available for other critical contracts," Fortune explained.

He added that contracting personnel in the 1102 career series often spend much of their time executing and awarding contracts in support of mission partner needs leaving little time to devote toward researching and resolving unliquidated obligations and expiring funds issues.

"Financial management Soldiers assigned to MICC do the research and often solve the issues for the 1102s so they can close those contracts and return the excess funds back into the system. This frees 1102s to focus on critical procurement awards," Fortune said.



VERONICA ZERVAN

(From left) Sgt. 1st Class Mayda Rivera-Pena, Sgt. Tito Sanchez and Spec. Dylan Livingston review use of the Virtual Contracting Enterprise-Paperless Contract Files acquisition management system Nov. 9 at Fort Stewart, Georgia, as part of a rotation for developmental training.

Sgt. 1st Class Mayda Rivera-Pena, one of the financial management Soldiers completing their developmental training at Fort Stewart, Georgia, this month, agreed the contracting experience benefits her military occupational specialty knowledge and contributes to a better understanding of the fiscal triad.

"I was able to work in one important aspect of the support we provide. The acquisition of funds and expenditure of the same are key for units to accomplish their missions," she said. "Being able to identify all the excess of funds during the contract closeout process and returning the same to the units ensured unit readiness."

Contracts are considered over age if they are not closed in accordance with procedures outlined in the Federal Acquisition Regulation, which governs the timelines for closing out contracts. For most simplified acquisitions,

contracts are considered closed after the receipt of supplies or services and final payment.

Fixed-priced contracts should be closed within six months after completion, and cost-type contracts should be closed within 36 months after the contracting officer receives evidence of physical completion.

Once financial management Soldiers arrive at MICC contracting offices, they are assigned to a mentor for continued training and accomplish a side-by-side handoff of duties with the Soldiers they are replacing.

Five financial management Soldiers have been assigned over the last few weeks to select MICC offices across the command that are co-located with their respective financial management support units so that they may still accomplish wartime skills and physical fitness training. Locations include contracting offices at Fort Stewart; Fort Campbell,

Kentucky; Fort Drum, New York; and Fort Bragg, where they will complete a nine-month rotation.

Following a developmental rotation in contracting, Soldiers move on to accomplish a second phase of training through the Army Financial Management Command Systems Support Operations.

The second phase includes the spending chain and contracting course as well as continued extensive training in GFEBS.

Rivera-Pena explained the spending chain includes the processes of how funds are spent and specific roles of personnel involved while the contracting portion covers acquisition procedures in accordance with regulations.

"These courses help build up more knowledge as far as the entire process on how units go from identifying their requisitions all the way to obtaining and paying for the same," she said.

# LACKLAND

## JBSA medical facilities support Operation Warp Speed

By Rachel Kersey

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Joint Base San Antonio's Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center, or WHASC, and Brooke Army Medical Center are supporting the Department of Defense on Operation Warp Speed, which seeks to pioneer vaccines for COVID-19. The vaccine trial began at JBSA Nov. 5.

The Department of Defense's participation in OWS supports the whole-of-government effort to ensure that safe and effective medical products are provided rapidly to the American people.

"This is a joint effort between the private sector and military," said Genice Jacques, lead site coordinator at WHASC. "It's a collaboration that's

unheard of."

The trial is randomized, so not everyone who participates will receive an actual vaccine, Jacques said. For every three participants, two will receive the vaccine and one will receive a placebo.

When participants enter one of the OWS trial facilities at JBSA, they should be in and out within two hours, depending on how long it takes to answer any questions or concerns participants have, how long it takes to obtain their vitals, check to make sure they meet medical standards, do nose swabs, and perform an inoculation, Jacques said.

After the vaccine has been administered, the medical team, comprised of government civilians and active-duty service members, will

contact participants by phone within eight days to assess their health and see if they are showing any symptoms.

Twenty-nine days after receiving the first injection, participants will receive a second "booster" injection. One week after the second injection, they will receive another phone call assessment, and a final follow-up phone call two weeks after that.

"We're always calling them to ask about their symptoms because if they do feel symptomatic, we will bring them in, and we do some additional tests," Jacques said. "If they are symptomatic by chance, we do treat them as if they are contagious."

Operation Warp Speed also operates a 24/7 nurse hotline that participants can call anytime to report any shortness of breath or other COVID-19 symptoms.

This information will be provided to those participating in the trial.

The DOD has a goal of 1,000 volunteers in each market area of the OWS trial, with the target population being active duty, Reserve and National Guard, retirees, veterans, and other Military Health System beneficiaries who meet the trial parameters.

Personnel interested in participating in the Phase III AstraZeneca trials at selected DOD locations should visit [www.CoronavirusPreventionNet.work.org](http://www.CoronavirusPreventionNet.work.org), click on "Volunteer Now," and complete the survey using the appropriate DOD Site Code. Local site codes are:

► Brooke Army Medical Center (Site Code: BAMC)

► Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center (Site Code: WHMC)



CPL. SAMANTHA HALL

### DOD MEDICAL PERSONNEL WORKING ALONGSIDE EL PASO CIVILIAN HEALTHCARE WORKERS

*Air Force Staff Sgt. Ian Krug, a registered nurse with the 59th Medical Wing at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, works with Staff Sgt. LaShauna Brown, a medical technician and noncommissioned officer in charge of the pediatric intensive care unit of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, in a patient room at University Medical Center in El Paso, Texas, Nov. 16. They, along with approximately 60 other service members, are working jointly with the U.S. Army and civilian hospitals to assist in the mitigation of COVID-19 and help citizens in need. U.S. Northern Command, through U.S. Army North, remains committed to providing flexible Department of Defense support to the Federal Emergency Management Agency in support of the whole-of-America COVID-19 response.*





SARAYUTH PINTHONG

*Tactical Air Control Party, or TACP, instructors with the 353rd Special Warfare Training Squadron conduct physical training drills during the TACP apprentice course, Jan. 14 at Joint Base San Antonio-Chapman Training Annex.*



JOHNNY SALDIVAR

*U.S. Army Gen. Richard D. Clarke, commander of U.S. Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, and U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Gregory Smith, USSOCOM command chief (both center), listen to a brief during a tour of the Special Warfare Training Wing's water confidence drill Oct. 16 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.*

# Special Warfare Preparatory Course changes how Airmen train

By 1st Lt. Jeremy Huggins

SPECIAL WARFARE TRAINING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Air Force's Special Warfare Training Wing at Joint Base San Antonio-Chapman Training Annex has refined its training program for Airmen attempting to enter the Tactical Air Control Party, Special Tactics or Guardian Angel weapons systems, in an effort to create more well-rounded future operators.

Following graduation from Basic Military Training, new enlisted Airmen interested in becoming a candidate for a career in special warfare must complete the eight-week Special Warfare Preparatory Course, or SWPC.

In this course, training coaches, dietitians, counselors and other staff members expose Airmen to the tools needed to become successful within the various special warfare training

pipelines. Upon completion of SWPC, Airmen enter into the course of initial entry for their particular career field.

"Our course is meant to better develop operators," said Master Sgt. Michael Blout, Special Warfare Preparatory Course superintendent. "We are providing better, more well-rounded training, which provides the Air Force with more capable operators straight out of the training pipeline."

This deliberate approach to training takes a more holistic edge involving multiple disciplines and modalities consisting of strength and conditioning, mental toughness, nutrition, sleep hygiene and active recovery. Additionally, the SWPC staff incorporates Human Performance

monitoring to track conditioning throughout the 8 week course. This Human Performance capability informs the staff on the level of effectiveness for each of the SW candidates.

"In the past, candidates arrived unprepared both mentally and physically for the rigors of the special warfare pipeline, which drove historical levels of high attrition," said Chief Master Sgt. Todd Popovic, Special Warfare Training Wing command chief. "However, this course provides a firm foundation to educate and prepare each Airmen for what's ahead and has proven to decrease attrition in the follow-on courses."

For more information on special warfare career fields, visit <https://www.airforce.com/careers/indemand-careers/special-warfare>.

# Air Force LEAP scholar on COVID-19 front lines earns Navy medal

**By Air Force Culture and Language Center Outreach Team**

Earlier this year, Senior Master Sgt. Selma Stinson, a Language Enabled Airman Program, or LEAP, scholar, was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal, along with Tech. Sgt. Ana Cruz, for their Spanish language support on the USNS Comfort in Santa Marta, Colombia, in November 2019.

Through this Training Partnership Request, they directly contributed to the treatment of more than 7,400 patients, 138 surgeries, 1,400 vaccinations, and 866 dental patients.

Additionally, they delivered five public health conferences in Spanish, increasing the preventative health awareness of 70 Colombian military, government, and local medical personnel.

Stinson is currently based at the 59th Medical Wing at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland and has been on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic since its outbreak.

"San Antonio has a big Hispanic population and I speak Spanish. Every time the base needs me to do briefings in

the community, translate, interpret, or do anything in San Antonio or for the wing, I'm in charge of that. I work in the medical wing, so we've stayed pretty busy," Stinson said. "We've been doing a lot of surveillance and drive-thru COVID testing.

"We also set up a drive-thru pharmacy so that people can get their prescriptions safely," Stinson said. "We still have the basic training mission we're supporting, but we're helping with triage, pre-screening, and temperature checks before anyone can enter the buildings.

"When COVID first started, it was a little difficult for us because of our procedures in dentistry. Because of air droplets possibly carrying the coronavirus, we scaled down and then stopped all procedures we were doing except emergencies.

"We were doing everything outside of dental procedures until about June, when COVID cases in our area began to slow down. It seemed like they were getting under control," Stinson added.

"Now we are back to doing our procedures, but there's a national shortage of personal protection equipment.



COURTESY PHOTO

*Senior Master Sgt. Selma Stinson, a Language Enabled Airman Program, or LEAP, scholar currently based at the 59th Medical Wing, was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal, along with Tech. Sgt. Ana Cruz, for their Spanish language support on the USNS Comfort in Santa Marta, Colombia, in November 2019.*

"It was scary at the beginning of the pandemic, because no one knew what was going on or what to expect," she said. "No treatment worked, so the first thing we did was stop our normal operations until we could get some clarification from the Air Force and the Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention.

"We wanted to follow infection control guidelines, but we didn't have any specific guidance for a pandemic like this back then. That's different now," Stinson said. "We have guidance and instructions, and if you're here in San Antonio, you have to follow the rules. They won't even let you into any stores if you don't have your mask on.

"We treat everyone here — active duty, basic trainees and retirees. We have the biggest dental training residency in the Air Force here, so all the residents come here to get trained in their specialties. We're going to start doing surveillance within the 59th Dental Group with patients so the dentists will get trained to do their own swabbing.

"We have one of the labs approved by the FDA to make the swabs, and we just sent 3,500 swabs to the U.S. Coast Guard. We also make medical face shields," Stinson added. "This is also one of the bases doing the trials for the vaccines. Everyone's working nonstop between doing our regular jobs and trying to support the mission for COVID — it's a lot. We're truly doing all that we can here to help stem the pandemic."



# DLIELC unveils new Aviation Language Training Center

By Defense Language Institute English Language Center  
Public Affairs

The Defense Language Institute English Language Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland held a dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony Nov. 6 for the new DLI Aviation Language Training Center which houses the Watkins Aviation Language Preparation Room and Sirois Aviation Simulation Lab.

The new center houses the Watkins Aviation Language Preparation Room and Sirois Aviation Simulation Lab. The center's opening is the first step by DLIELC in a long-term plan to renovate the facility with moveable walls and state of the art virtual reality and artificial intelligence technology befitting a world-class aviation

training center.

"The United States leads the world in English training for military professionals and continues to raise the bar with this new cutting edge facility capable of serving a multitude of aviation specialties from JTACS and air traffic controllers to fixed wing and rotary wing pilots. We look forward to offering our foreign partners an unparalleled experience and enhance their follow-on training events," said George Gagnon, Director of International Training and Education, Air Education and Training Command.

The Watkins Aviation Language Preparation Room will serve as the "hangar" bay with a reception for

student-led learning, formal language instruction area, and an instructor pilot briefing table, along with several other task-based training areas.

The Sirois Aviation Sim Lab will function as the DLIELC "flight line" to create a fully immersive language training experience that replicates student experiences at their follow-on aviation training. International military students can practice their aviation-related English vocabulary in a situation that closely matches that of the operational world so they will be better equipped for communicating with their peers and increase safety and mission success.

The ribbon cutting and dedication was a special event as it marked the opening of new advancements in DLIELC English language training

instruction. With the help of AETC's International Affairs directorate, DLIELC followed AETC's Pilot Training Next approach by taking a bare minimum facility and adding virtual reality and artificial intelligence technology to our Aviation Specialized English Training.

"Our approach has significantly accelerated change and innovation while transforming the way we learn in line with our CSAF and AETC commander's direction and guidance," said Col Kouji Gillis, DLIELC commandant.

The ceremony also gave DLIELC an opportunity to pay homage to James A. Watkins Jr., a dedicated and passionate member of the DLIELC team until his passing in March 2020. Watkins served as a DLIELC instructor for 10 years and facilitated more

than 16,000 hours as an aviation subject matter expert in the Specialized English Instruction Flight within the 332nd Training Squadron. Watkins was also instrumental in the establishment of the original Sirois Aviation Sim Lab at DLIELC; his devotion to the learning that took place under his watch led numerous DLIELC students to success in their follow-on trainings and beyond.

Courses in the new Sirois Aviation Sim Lab and Watkins Aviation Language Preparation Room begin in January 2021. Follow DLIELC at [www.facebook.com/DLIELC](http://www.facebook.com/DLIELC) LACKLAND for updates regarding the Aviation Language Training Center and English language training.

# New JBSA mission partner protocol advisor/liaison looks to unite mission

By Minnie Jones  
433RD AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Bernadette Gast, the new Joint Base San Antonio mission partner protocol advisor/liaison, hopes to be the missing link for a unified JBSA protocol mission. Her first order of business was to call a mission partner “Protocol Huddle” Oct. 30 at the Gateway Club at JBSA-Lackland for all the protocol directors, chiefs, protocol leads and those working in protocol offices as an additional duty.

During this meeting, attendees had the opportunity to meet other JBSA protocol members, discuss office configurations, ideas, the mission, protocol roles between JBSA and the 502nd Air Base Wing, and how to collectively support the JBSA team and everything else related to protocol.

Gast also introduced Kellie Washburn, 502nd ABW chief of protocol. Washburn’s role is to support the 502nd ABW command team, specifically Brig. Gen. Caroline M. Miller, 502nd ABW and JBSA commander, which unifies 11 geographically distinct locations.

“Kellie Washburn and I are the classic ‘dynamic duo,’ and with her team, we exemplify the 502nd ABW’s mission statement ‘unrivaled installation support and service to enable mission partners success,’” Gast said. “This is what we strive to do,



*Bernadette Gast (in red), the new Joint Base San Antonio mission partner protocol liaison, Kellie Washburn (left standing), 502nd Air Base Wing chief of protocol, and Deborah Wilson, 502nd ABW protocol specialist, discuss new processes for tracking distinguished visitors at JBSA. Gast and Washburn will collectively support the JBSA protocol team, which includes mission partner units and everything else protocol related.*

together, every day!”

One important thing they will bring to the table is much-needed satellite offices that will provide direct access for wing and group protocol offices across

JBSA to specific items to support a visit or event. These satellite offices will eliminate team members driving to JBSA-Fort Sam Houston to pick up protocol items, such as special flags and articles for upcoming events. The JBSA satellite offices will be located at the JBSA-Lackland Annex at building 5301 and at the JBSA-Randolph Annex office in building 1048.

“Since a lot of mission partner protocol offices do not have specific items to support a visit or an event, the 502nd ABW protocol offices will have those items readily available to be checked out,” Washburn said.

The support does not stop there. The JBSA liaison and the 502nd ABW Protocol offices will also manage flags flown over JBSA for retirements or other special occasions through combined efforts.

Another initiative the team will introduce to the group is more quarterly JBSA mission partner protocol huddles that will bring refresher training, discussions on new guidance from the Department of Defense, and mock hiring boards to prepare protocol professionals for the next level of their career.

“I hope to continue this amazing relationship between the 502nd ABW and all protocol mission partners’ offices,” Gast said. “Together as a team, we can help each other share information, resources, best practices and anything to improve our processes and continue to build strong relationships.”

## 149TH FIGHTER WING FATALITY SEARCH AND RECOVERY TEAM TRAINS AT JBSA-LACKLAND



*Members of the 149th Fighter Wing fatality search and rescue team train on using the MT94 Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high yield Explosives, or CBRNE suit Nov. 15 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. These FSRT members are training on how to move into a contaminated area and recover remains after a chemical disaster.*



# RANDOLPH

## JBSA, AETC collaborate on active shooter training

By Capt. Kayshel Trudell

AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In collaboration with the Air Education and Training Command, members from the 502nd Air Base Wing are transforming active shooter training at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.

Active shooter training outside of a security forces squadron typically involves briefings provided by defenders at unit commander's calls. Base exercises are usually narrowly focused on a single "play facility," with limited participation.

"Defenders exercise team movement, building approaches and formations, and practice training for events that include shooting victims and hostage situations," said Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Fleming, 502nd Security Forces Group superintendent. "While this is vital training for defenders, everyone else on base needs the training to prepare for events within their individual work environments."

The goal of the collaborative effort between Security Forces and AETC is to provide hands-on training to people and offer practical tips specific to their work centers. After receiving in-depth training by defenders, unit representatives create a localized plan and then train members of their organization with hands-on response actions to demonstrate understanding and ability to execute.

"We must start thinking about active shooter training differently," said Col. Leonard Rose, AETC Security Forces chief. "It is our job as leaders to prepare everyone to react to a situation like this, not just the defenders and members who happen to participate in a base-wide exercise. Utilizing this localized training approach allows us to train 90 percent of people where they spend 90 percent of their time. It will prepare people to react within their work environment and provides teams an opportunity to rehearse each response option according



JOSE A. TORRES JR.

Brig. Gen. Caroline Miller, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander, and her staff members listen to Bob Vickers, right, from the 502nd Security Forces Group during an active shooter training class at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Nov. 18.

to the layout of their specific work center."

Another significant benefit of training in work centers is the flexibility to learn when convenient to the organization.

"This more-flexible exercise program provides options for commanders to ensure their personnel are ready outside of base-wide exercise schedules," said Rose.

Rose added that past base-wide active shooter exercises have led to mistaken reports of real-world events. These smaller, localized training sessions reduce the potential of a false alarm.

"False reports during an exercise can have tragic and tactical consequences," Rose said. "Previous false reports have come from areas of the base which were not the 'play area' and initiated a full real-world response from Security Forces and local law enforcement with

responding members expecting to see an armed adversary."

Familiarizing oneself with the building, walking through the work center and understanding safety features and escape routes could result in saved lives during an active shooter incident.

"If you have a plan to use a desk as a barricade, but you've never physically tried to move that desk, you haven't prepared yourself to respond during a crisis," Rose said. "You would not want to discover the desk is too heavy to move during a real-world situation. Physically attempting what you would do in a training environment allows shortfalls to be identified and new courses of action to be established and practiced."

In addition to the 502nd ABW exercises, Rose and his team are currently conducting small-scale exercises for every office space in AETC

headquarters. They started with the AETC commander's front office.

"Everyone in our office staff learned something during this exercise," said Chief Master Sgt. Erik Thompson, AETC's command chief. "We learned what to do and corrected some assumptions so we're prepared should we need to respond."

"This unit training isn't a replacement for training defenders, Air Force Office of Special Investigation agents and emergency operations center operators," Rose said. "It allows individuals to receive the training necessary for their position. We want everyone to know their role and have an emergency plan that enables responses to become second nature."

To learn more, visit <https://www.beready.af.mil/Disasters-Emergencies/Man-Mad-Incident/Active-Shooter/>.

## Chief master sergeant promotion cycle announced

By Staff Sgt. Sahara L. Fales  
AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Air Force officials have selected 518 senior master sergeants for promotion to chief master sergeant out of 2,763 eligible for a selection rate of 18.75 percent in the 20E9 promotion cycle.

In addition, the Space Force also selected two senior master sergeants for promotion to chief master sergeant out of eight eligible for a

selection rate of 25 percent in the 20S9 promotion cycle.

The promotion lists will be available on the Air Force's Personnel Center website, Enlisted Promotions page, the Air Force Portal and myPers at 8 a.m. Dec. 8.

Airmen will also be able to access their score notices on the virtual Military Personnel Flight via the AFPC secure applications page. Space Professionals will receive their score notices via email.

## AFRS hosts first Space Force officer selection board

By Air Force Recruiting Service  
Public Affairs

Air Force Recruiting Service scheduled the first U.S. Space Force officer selection board for early 2021. The board will select the most qualified candidates for Officer Training School.

"Previous applications are still valid and on file, new applications will be accepted through Dec. 14, 2021 and the projected board release date is Feb. 15, 2021," said Lt. Col. Michael Graff, branch chief of Space Force Recruiting, located at AFRS headquarters, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas. "This board will be selecting personnel for the 13S Space Operations career field only."

Active duty applicants can apply by visiting the Air Force Portal. A common access card, or CAC, is required to access: <https://cs2.eis.af.mil/sites/u470/LOannouncements/SitePages/Home.aspx>.

Civilians can apply through an Air Force Officer Accessions Recruiter

found on [airforce.com](https://www.airforce.com).

For questions, contact AFRS Line Officer Accessions via email at [AFRS.LO.Accessions@us.af.mil](mailto:AFRS.LO.Accessions@us.af.mil) or telephone at DSN 665-0340 or 210-565-0340. Additionally, the Space Force Recruiting Branch can be emailed at [AFRS.RSOS.AFRSSpaceForceRec@us.af.mil](mailto:AFRS.RSOS.AFRSSpaceForceRec@us.af.mil) for more information.

