

56th Medical Operations Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted 56th Medical Operations Squadron on 21 March 1994.

Activated on 1 April 1994.¹

Honors.

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

- 1 July 1994-30 June 1996²
- 1 July 1996-30 June 1998³
- 1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁴
- 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁵
- 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁶
- 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁷
- 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁸
- 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁹
- 1 July 2008-30 June 2009¹⁰
- 1 July 2009-30 June 2010¹¹
- 1 July 2010-30 June 2011¹²
- 1 July 2011-30 June 2012¹³
- 1 July 2012-30 June 2013¹⁴
- 1 July 2013-30 June 2014¹⁵



¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

² AETC SO GA-18/1996

³ AETC SO GA-12/1998

⁴ AETC SO GA-9/2000

⁵ AETC SO GA-55/2004

⁶ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

⁷ AETC SO GA-045/2007

⁸ AETC SO G-054/2008

⁹ AETC SO G-071/2009

¹⁰ AETC SO G-025/2010

¹¹ AETC SO G-086/2011

¹² AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

¹³ AETC SO G-036, 1 March 2013

¹⁴ AETC SO G-017, 1 February 2014

¹⁵ AETC SO G-029, 8 January 2015

Assignments. 56th Medical Group, 1 April 1994-.¹⁶

Stations. Luke AFB, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.¹⁷

Emblem. Approved on 23 October 1997

Blazon. Per fess Azure and Gules radiating to chief from fess point four rays Or, overall a Staff of Aesculapius, staff Brown, serpent Vert; all within a diminished bordure of the first.

Attached below the disc a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "56th MEDICAL OPS SQ. " in Black letters.

Motto. None.

Significance. Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The Staff of Aesculapius stands for hope, life and wisdom as well as the unit's mission of providing quality patient health care.

The alternating rays suggest twenty-four hour medical care that is provided by the squadron.

¹⁶ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁷ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.***56th Medical Operations Squadron [1 April 1994-.]***

Col Reba Ray	1 April 1994 ¹⁸
Col Michael Gookin	20 October 1994 ¹⁹
Lt Col James N. Black	13 February 1997 ²⁰
Lt Col Margaret B. Matarese	12 July 1999 ²¹
Lt Col Gail McCain	31 May 2001 ²²
Lt Col Paul A. Friedrichs	22 May 2003 ²³
Lt Col Janet T. Taylor	17 May 2005 ²⁴
Col Dean L. Messelheiser	5 June 2007 ²⁵
Col David C. Hall	20 May 2009 ²⁶
Col Nicola A. Choate	10 June 2011 ²⁷
Col Constance I. Jackson	27 August 2013 ²⁸
Col Stephen R. Boden	24 July 2015-Present. ²⁹

Narrative.

The unit was constituted as the 56th Medical Operations Squadron on 21 March 1994 and activated on 1 April 1994 at Luke AFB, Arizona. Assigned to the 56th Medical Group, the squadron optimizes performance and ensures medical readiness of the human weapons system for the largest fighter wing in the USAF. It aggressively promotes health, maintains wellness, and minimizes the impact of illness for 7,500 uniformed personnel and 84,000 beneficiaries. The squadron uses health care optimization in an integrated managed care environment. It annually supports 131,000 ambulatory clinic visits and over 1,300 patient surgeries..

Date Prepared. 31 March 2000**Prepared by** Helen Weaver**Approved by** Judy G. Endicott**Updated** 29 July 2015**Updated by** Rick Griset

¹⁸ 56 MDSS SO GU-001, c. 12 May 1994

¹⁹ 56 MDG SO GU-001, 17 October 1994

²⁰ 56 MDG SO GU-001, 30 January 1997

²¹ 56 MDG SO GU012, 8 July 1999

²² 56 MDG SO GU-005, 30 May 2001

²³ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-1, c. 1 May 2003

²⁴ 56 MDG SO G-05-02, 19 April 2005

²⁵ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-1, 31 May 2007

²⁶ 56MSG SO G-031, 8 June 2009

²⁷ 56 MSG SO G-014, 10 June 2011

²⁸ 56 MSG SO GS-28, 27 August 2013

²⁹ 56 MSG SO GS-10-15, 15 June 2015