



56TH FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

CHANGE OF COMMAND

CEREMONY



26 JUNE 2026

LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, ARIZONA



KEY PERSONNEL

PRESIDING OFFICER

Colonel Darryl J. Hebert Jr.

OUTGOING COMMANDER

Lieutenant Colonel Maria K. Berardo

INCOMING COMMANDER

Major Jazmine N. Hood

NARRATOR

Senior Master Sergeant Stephanie N. Allen

COMMANDER OF AIRMEN

Second Lieutenant Don D. Malay

GUIDON BEARER

Master Sergeant Richard Baltazar



SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Opening Narration

Arrival of the Official Party

Presentation of the Colors

National Anthem

Senior Airman Mickaella B. Badilla

Invocation

Chaplain Daniel A. Starr

Introductions

Remarks

Colonel Darryl J. Hebert Jr.

Medal Presentation

Remarks

Lieutenant Colonel Maria K. Berardo

Change of Command

Remarks

Major Jazmine N. Hood

Air Force Song

Departure of the Official Party

Closing Narration

Lieutenant Colonel Maria K. Berardo

Lt Col Maria K. Berardo is the Commander of the 56th Force Support Squadron, Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. She leads the wing's fourth largest and most diverse squadron of 481 Airmen and Civilian members in the delivery of premier, customer-focused manpower, personnel, education, sustainment, family, and recreation services to the Air Force's largest fighter wing. She executes a combined annual budget of \$10.7M, integrates 10 flights, and oversees 67 activities through service delivery and strategic messaging for over 150 quality of life programs supporting 7.4K joint personnel, 1.3K civilian employees, 8K dependents, and 80K retirees.



Lt Col Berardo received her commission in 2010 through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She has served in various roles at stateside and overseas locations across the squadron, wing, and joint levels. Her previous duties include Section Chief, Flight Commander, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, Operations Officer, and Deputy Commander. She has also deployed in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM as a Human Resources Senior Advisor for NATO Training Mission Afghanistan and Combined Security Transition Afghanistan.

Prior to her current assignment, Lt Col Berardo was a Student at Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama. While there, she studied the theory and application of the profession of arms, leadership, ethics, airpower, joint and contemporary warfare, and international security to think critically, lead teams, and solve complex problems for the challenges ahead. Lt Col Berardo and her husband, Joshua, have three children Miya, Noah, and Jonah.

EDUCATION

- 2010 Bachelor of Business Administration, Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Honolulu
- 2010 Air and Space Basic Course, Maxwell AFB, AL.
- 2017 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, AL.
- 2022 Master of Business Administration, Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA.
- 2023 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL.
- 2023 Master of Military Operational Art and Science, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL

ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 2010 – November 2010, Chief, Customer Support, 90th Force Support Squadron, F.E. Warren AFB, WY.
2. November 2010 – March 2011, Chief, Lodging, 90th Force Support Squadron, F.E. Warren AFB, WY.
3. March 2011 – November 2011, Chief, Fitness and Sports, 90th Force Support Squadron, F.E. Warren AFB, WY.
4. November 2011 – June 2012, Chief, Military Personnel Section, 90th Force Support Squadron, F.E. Warren AFB, WY.
5. June 2012 – September 2013, Manpower and Personnel Flight Commander, 90th Force Support Squadron, F.E. Warren AFB, WY. (December 2012 – June 2013, Human Resources Senior Advisor, NATO Training Mission Afghanistan and Combined Security Transition Afghanistan, Camp Eggers, Afghanistan)
6. September 2013 – September 2014, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, 65th Air Base Wing, Lajes Field, Portugal
7. October 2014 – January 2015, Chief, Military Personnel Section, 48th Fighter Wing, Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England
8. January 2015 – November 2016, Manpower and Personnel Flight Commander, 48th Fighter Wing, Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England
9. November 2016 – October 2017, Sustainment Services Flight Commander, 48th Fighter Wing, Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England
10. November 2017 – November 2018, Operations Officer, St. Louis Military Entrance Processing Station, 11th Battalion, St. Louis, MO.
11. November 2018 – October 2020, Deputy Commander, St. Louis Military Entrance Processing Station, 11th Battalion, St. Louis, MO.
12. October 2020 – July 2022, Operations Officer, 49th Force Support Squadron, Holloman AFB, N.M.
13. July 2022 – May 2023, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, A.
14. June 2023 – Present, Commander, 56th Force Support Squadron, Luke AFB, AZ.

Major Jazmine N. Hood

Major Jazmine N. Hood is a Force Support Officer and current student at Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. She has served in leadership positions across personnel, services, aircraft maintenance, sexual assault prevention and response, and strategic human capital management. Her assignments include serving as Operations Officer for the 374th Force Support Squadron at Yokota Air Base, Japan, and Director of Personnel (A1) for Air University Headquarters. She has deployed in support of Operations INHERENT RESOLVE, FREEDOM'S SENTINEL, and RESOLUTE SUPPORT.



EDUCATION

2012 Bachelor of Science Degree, Geography, New Mexico State University, NM
2015 Master of Art, Psychology, American Military University
2018 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, AL
2026 Master of Military Operational Art and Science, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Sep 2012 – Feb 2014, Officer in Charge, Fitness Assessment Cell, 30th Force Support Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA
2. Feb 2014 – Jan 2015, Chief, Installation Personnel Readiness, 366th Force Support Squadron, Mountain Home AFB, ID
3. Jan 2015 – Aug 2015, Manpower and Personnel Flight Commander, 366th Force Support Squadron, Mountain Home AFB, ID
4. Jul 2015 – Jan 2016, Deputy Chief of Protocol, Headquarters United States Air Forces Central Command (Forward), Al Udeid AB, Qatar
5. Aug 2015 – Apr 2017, Executive Officer, 366th Mission Support Group, Mountain Home AFB, ID
6. Apr 2017 – Mar 2019, Sustainment Services Flight Commander, 325th Force Support Squadron, Tyndall AFB, FL
7. Mar 2019 – Aug 2021, Deputy Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, 48th Fighter Wing, RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom
8. May 2020 – Oct 2020, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, AFAFRICA, 435th Air Expeditionary Wing, Ramstein AB, Germany
9. Aug 2021 – Aug 2022, Section Commander, 748th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom
10. Sep 2022 – Jul 2024, Operations Officer, 374th Force Support Squadron, Yokota AB, Japan
11. Jul 2024 – Jun 2025, A1 Director, Headquarters Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL
12. Jun 2025 – Jun 2026, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL

History of the 56th Force Support Squadron

The 56th Force Support Squadron provides “cradle to grave” support to 93,000 military, civilian, retirees and family members to include Manpower and Personnel, Force Development, Community and Sustainment Services, and Airman and Family Readiness. The 56th Mission Support Squadron and the 56th Services Squadron combined on 26 February 2009.

The squadron motto is “Cradle to Grave.” The 56th Force Support Squadron emblem seen in the front of this program is symbolic to the unit mission. Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The garland of wheat symbolizes the unit’s largest focus, food service. The bull signifies strength and readiness. The points of the star stand for the five core areas of the 56th Force Support Squadron mission; Manpower and Personnel (Military and Civilian), Airmen and Family Services (Dependent Care), Sustainment Services (Food, Fitness, Lodging), Force Development (Education and Training), and Community Services (Airmen Regeneration).

The background of the entire slide is a blurred, wavy image of the United States flag, showing the stars and stripes in a soft, out-of-focus manner.

THE CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

The change of command ceremony is a military tradition deeply rooted in history. Historically, the passing of a unit's flag was accomplished in front of the unit so all could see and witness the changing of leadership.

This symbolic tradition has survived throughout military history. The modern ceremony continues to announce to all, the authority of the incoming commander in the finest of military traditions.

Air Force Song

Off we go, into the wild blue yonder,
climbing high, into the sun.

Here they come, zooming to meet our
thunder, At'em now, give-em the
Gun....GIVE-EM THE GUN!!!

Down we dive, spouting our flame
from under, off with one helluva roar!
We live in fame, or go down in flame.

Hey! Nothing'll stop the
US Air Force!

