

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 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 AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

² AETC SO GA-18, 15 November 1996

³ AETC SO GA-12, 9 November 1998

⁴ AETC SO GA-9, 8 December 2000

⁵ AETC SO GA-55, 29 April 2004

⁶ AETC SO GA-0052, 22 June 2006

⁷ AETC SO GA-045, 8 May 2007

⁸ AETC SO G-054, 28 February 2008

⁹ AETC SO G-071, 3 April 2009

¹⁰ AETC SO G-025, 11 March 2010

¹¹ AETC SO G-086, 9 May 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

Decorations. (Continued)

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)

1 July 2013-30 June 2014¹⁵

1 July 2014-30 June 2015¹⁶

1 July 2015-30 June 2016¹⁷

Assignments. 56th Medical Group, 1 April 1994-.¹⁸

Stations. Luke AFB, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.¹⁹

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.

¹⁵ AETC SO G-029, 8 January 2015

¹⁶ AETC SO G-006, 14 October 2016

¹⁷ AETC SO G-022, 22 March 2017

¹⁸ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.

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

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Col Reba Ray | 1 April 1994 ²⁰ |
| Col Michael Gookin | 20 October 1994 ²¹ |
| Lt Col James N. Black | 13 February 1997 ²² |
| Lt Col Margaret B. Matarese | 12 July 1999 ²³ |
| Lt Col Gail McCain | 31 May 2001 ²⁴ |
| Lt Col Paul A. Friedrichs | 22 May 2003 ²⁵ |
| Lt Col Janet T. Taylor | 17 May 2005 ²⁶ |
| Col Dean L. Messelheiser | 5 June 2007 ²⁷ |
| Col David C. Hall | 20 May 2009 ²⁸ |
| Col Nicola A. Choate | 10 June 2011 ²⁹ |
| Col Constance I. Jackson | 27 August 2013 ³⁰ |
| Col Stephen R. Boden | 24 July 2015 ³¹ |
| Col Joseph R. Beard | 21 July 2017-Present. ³² |

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 provides patient care.

Updated 29 July 2015

Updated by Rick Grisct

²⁰ 56 MDSS SO GU-001, c. 12 May 1994

²¹ 56 MDG SO GU-001, 17 October 1994

²² 56 MDG SO GU-001, 30 January 1997

²³ 56 MDG SO GU012, 8 July 1999

²⁴ 56 MDG SO GU-005, 30 May 2001

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

²⁶ 56 MDG SO G-05-02, 19 April 2005

²⁷ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-1, 31 May 2007

²⁸ 56MSG SO G-031, 8 June 2009

²⁹ 56 MSG SO G-014, 10 June 2011

³⁰ 56 MSG SO GS-28, 27 August 2013

³¹ 56 MSG SO GS-10-15, 15 June 2015

³² 56 MSG SO GS-26-17, 20 July 2017