

★★★ — WELCOME TO THE — ★★★
RETIREMENT CEREMONY

IN HONOR OF
**CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT
JASON E. AUCOIN**



★★★ ★★ ★★ ★★ ★★
4 SEPTEMBER 2026

LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, ARIZONA

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Opening Narration

Arrival of the Official Party

Presentation of the Colors

National Anthem

Invocation

Remarks

Colonel Joshua A. De Paul

Fireside Chat

Retirement Order

Retirement Pin

Family Gifts

Flag Passing Ceremony

End of the Trails Presentation

Remarks

Chief Master Sergeant Jason E. Aucoin, USAF (Ret)

Closing Narration

Departure of the Official Party

Reception

History of the Chief Master Sergeant

The need to create the Chief Master Sergeant rank was forged from the technology that World War II produced. In the attempt to end the war as quickly as possible, officials in the United States dedicated teams of scientist and engineers to create the most advanced war winning capabilities possible. It was not until after the Korean War, however, that Air Force officials realized that the enlisted corps suffered from stagnation in rank. Master Sergeant (E-7) was the highest enlisted rank a person could achieve. It was then that Congress enacted the Career Compensation Act of 1958.

The act allowed Air Force officials to create two new ranks, Senior Master Sergeant (E-8) and Chief Master Sergeant (E-9). Air Force personnel officials conducted an in-depth study of all Air Force specialty codes and organized the career fields into highly technical, technical and non-technical fields. It was decided that one percent of the Master Sergeants from the highly technical fields would be promoted to Chief Master Sergeant. This is still true today, as only one percent of the enlisted force at any given time reach the rank of Chief Master Sergeant.

There were 58,000 Master Sergeants which qualified for promotion to either of the two grades. A promotion board was held to review records and look for demonstrated leadership and supervisory skills, evaluations and commander recommendations. Six hundred and twenty-five Airmen were selected to the rank Chief Master Sergeant. Since there were no line numbers at the time, they all were promoted on the same day, December 1, 1959, becoming the Air Force's charter chiefs.

The rank has flourished since 1959, earning the respect of all other services and ranks. During the 1970s, Air Staff officials made "Chief" the official term of address for an Air Force E-9.

One of the original charter chiefs, retired Chief Master Sergeant James J. Flaschenriem, wrote, "The Chief does not manage by fear or intimidation as the old First Sergeant did, but by knowledge, training, and great leadership ability."

Colonel Joshua A. De Paul

Colonel Joshua A. De Paul is Commander, 402d Aircraft Maintenance Group, Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia. He leads more than 3,200 personnel assigned to five squadrons, two branches, and an Expeditionary Depot Maintenance Flight, providing programmed depot maintenance, modifications, and unscheduled depot maintenance on the C-5, C-17, F-15, and C-130. As Commander, he leads the Air Force's second largest group responsible for executing a \$1.1 billion budget with 63 facilities covering over 2.5 million square feet and producing more than 130 aircraft annually.



Colonel De Paul received his commission from the Air Force Reserve Officers' Training Corps, The Citadel, Charleston, South Carolina. Colonel De Paul has commanded at the Group and Squadron level, served as a squadron Director of Operations and Advanced Maintenance and Munitions Operations School Instructor and Director of Operations, and served at the Pentagon on the Air Staff and Joint Staff. Prior to his current assignment, he served as Maintenance, Materiel, and Supply Division Chief, Joint Staff, J-4 Logistics Directorate, as well as the Senior Executive Officer to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Engineering, and Force Protection, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

ASSIGNMENTS

- Jul 03 - Dec 04, Avionics Flight Commander and Accessories Flight Commander, 57th Component Maintenance Squadron, 57th Maintenance Group, Nellis AFB, NV
- Jan 04 - Aug 05, A-10A/C Aircraft Maintenance Unit Officer in Charge, 57th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 57th Maintenance Group, Nellis AFB, NV
- Sep 05 - Jul 07, F-15E Aircraft Maintenance Unit Officer in Charge, 57th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 57th Maintenance Group, Nellis AFB, NV
- Aug 07 - Oct 08, B-1B Aircraft Maintenance Unit Officer in Charge, 7th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 7th Maintenance Group, Dyess AFB, TX
- Nov 08 - Aug 09, Maintenance Operations Officer, 7th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, 7th Maintenance Group, Dyess AFB, TX
- Sep 08 - Dec 09, Student, Advanced Maintenance and Munitions Officer School, Nellis AFB, NV
- Dec 09 - May 10, Maintenance Operations Officer, 7th Maintenance Operations Squadron, 7th Maintenance Group, Dyess AFB, TX
- Jun 10 - Jul 12, Instructor and Director of Operations, Advanced Maintenance and Munitions Officer School (USAF AMMOS), Nellis AFB, NV
- Aug 12 - Apr 13, Maintenance Operations Officer, 432d Maintenance Squadron, 432d Maintenance Group, Creech AFB, NV
- May 13 - Jun 14, Maintenance Operations Officer, 432d Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 432d Maintenance Group, Creech AFB, NV
- Jul 14 - Jun 15, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL
- Jul 15 - Jun 16, Commander, 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing, Al-Udeid AB
- Jul 16 - Jul 18, Commander, 48th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, 48th Fighter Wing FW, RAF Lakenheath, UK
- Jul 18 - Jul 19, Commander, 748th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 48th Fighter Wing FW, RAF Lakenheath, UK
- Jul 19 - Jul 20, Chief, Weapon System Sustainment Branch, Headquarters Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
- Jul 20 - Jul 21, Senior Executive Officer to the A4 Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, the Pentagon, Arlington, VA
- Aug 21 - Jun 22, Student, Eisenhower School, National Defense University, Fort McNair, Washington, D.C.
- Jul 22 - Jun 23, Chief, J44 Joint Munitions Branch, J4 Logistics Directorate, Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
- Jul 23 - Jun 24, Chief, J44 Maintenance, Materiel, & Supply Division, J4 Logistics Directorate, Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
- Jun 24 - Present, Commander, 402d Aircraft Maintenance Group, Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex, Robins AFB, GA

Chief Master Sergeant Jason E. Aucoin

Chief Master Sergeant Jason E. Aucoin is the Senior Enlisted Leader at 56th Mission Support Group, Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. He serves as the senior enlisted advisor to the commander on all issues regarding the welfare, readiness, morale, proper utilization, and quality of life for over 1,800 military and civilian personnel. The 56th Mission Support Group is comprised of six squadrons that deliver critical combat support to 1,043 facilities and 5,500 Airmen in support of F-16 and F-35 fighter aircraft at the Air Force's largest fighter wing. Additionally, he oversees support of the Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field and the Barry M. Goldwater Range, a military training range spanning more than 1.7 million acres of Sonoran Desert.

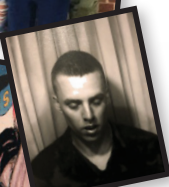
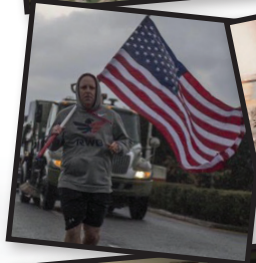
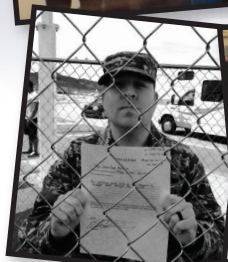


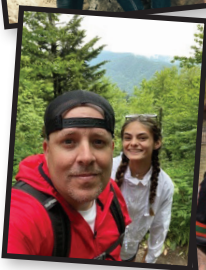
Chief Aucoin hails from Hollywood, Florida and entered the Air Force in November 1996 as an F-16 Avionics member. In 2008, he entered into the Safety career field, where he has worked in various operational and staff positions, involving wing and major command levels. During his career, he has served as the Superintendents for the 492d Fighter Squadron, Wing Inspector General, Wing Staff Agency, and Air Education Training Command Safety Directorate. Chief Aucoin has been stationed at locations in South Carolina, Arizona, United Arab Emirates, Maryland, Nevada, United Kingdom and Texas.

He has served in multiple deployed locations, supporting Operation NORTHERN WATCH, Operation ALLIED FORCE, Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa, and Operation NEW DAWN. Prior to his current position, the Chief was the Senior Enlisted Leader, 71st Operations Group, Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma.

ASSIGNMENTS

- Nov 96 - Jan 97, Trainee, Basic Military Training, Lackland AFB, TX
- Jan 97 - May 97, Student, Electronic Principles Training, Lackland AFB, TX
- May 97 - Sep 97, Student, 365th Training Squadron, Sheppard AFB, TX
- Sep 97 - Mar 02, F-16 AIS Member, 20th Component Repair Squadron, Shaw AFB, SC
- Mar 02 - Oct 07, F-16 AIS NCOIC, 57th Component Maintenance Squadron, Nellis AFB, NV
- Oct 07 - Dec 09, NCOIC of Safety Education and Training, 56th Fighter Wing, Luke AFB, AZ
- Dec 09 - Dec 10, Ground Safety Manager, 380th Air Expeditionary Wing, Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates
- Jan 11 - May 12, Safety, NCOIC of Ground Safety, 11th Wing, Joint Base Andrews, MD
- May 12 - Jul 14, Ground Safety Manager, 432d Wing, 432d Air Expeditionary Wing, Creech AFB, NV
- Jul 14 - Aug 16, Ground Safety Manager, 48th Fighter Wing, Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England
- Aug 16 - Dec 16, Superintendent, 492d Fighter Squadron, RAF Lakenheath, England
- Dec 16 - Aug 17, Inspector General Superintendent, 48th Fighter Wing, RAF Lakenheath, England
- Aug 17 - Jul 19, Safety Superintendent, 48th Fighter Wing, RAF Lakenheath, England
- Jul 19 - Jul 23, Safety Chief Enlisted Manager, Air Education and Training Command, JB San Antonio-Randolph, TX
- Jul 23 - Aug 24, Senior Enlisted Leader, 71st Operations Group, Vance AFB, OK
- Aug 24 - Present, Senior Enlisted Leader, 56th Mission Support Group, Luke AFB, AZ





An American flag with stars and stripes is shown in the upper left corner, and a bright sunburst is in the upper right corner. Three red stars are positioned above the title.

AIR FORCE SONG

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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!

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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!

