

# AFTERBURNER

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August 2019



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# AFTERBURNER

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144th Fighter Wing Security Forces personnel conducted an active shooter training exercise outside the Aircraft Ground Equipment building July 17, 2019. These training exercises enhance emergency response. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Charles Vaughn)

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## Commander's Comments

By Lt. Col. Katharine Corliss  
144th Munitions Flight

### Committed to the Mission

During lunch one day, I overheard a lively discussion between some Armen discussing challenges in relationships. Thrown out was a statistic that 90% of relationships are more likely to stay together when there is a significant hardship experienced within the first year.

And why is that the case? I would suggest because facing tough challenges together, more often than not, builds closer bonds and a stronger connection. I could not be prouder to have watched this very truth play out across our Wing over the past few years, as we have had more asked of us than ever before.

It is human nature to dislike hardships and to prefer to avoid them? We gravitate to comfort and ease in lots of areas in our lives.

I admire you Airmen because of how much of you seek to push yourselves beyond the everyday mundane and experience the greatest highs life has to offer. You to choose



to take on the hard tasks, the jobs that place challenges on personal and family life, to serve others out of a sense of duty and moral obligation. You choose to push yourselves toward personal improvement mentally, physically, socially, and spiritually rather than being content to drift through life.

Don't forget that in shooting for those highs, however, we will occasionally face opposition and/or failure instead of success. How will you choose to respond when the inevitable happens?

In my observations, I've watched many of the hurdles that pop up become a distraction to overall mission success. They derail our efforts to remain on task and waste our time, causing us to meander through too many processes. The Airmen I see overcome them the most successfully are those who choose to go down the new junction point with enthusiasm, team-mindedness, and a sense of innovation

*(continued on pg. 3)*

## Commander's Comments

for how to still achieve the goal. They choose to enjoy the detour and thrive on how to turn it into a shortcut back to the objective.

More importantly, they tap into the talents of the Airmen around them, so everyone performs at their best. Pooling our talents, knowledge, and energy together is the most effective way to minimize the trials we face. We come out stronger on the other side with our working relationships still intact.

We have adversaries abroad who seek to prevent us from being the best. As we move ahead, let us choose to embrace every future challenge together with the intent to let those hurdles build us into a closer team. Fully committed together is the only way we will succeed.



# Chief's Corner

By Chief Master Sgt. Antonio Chacon

*144th Weapons Manager*



## Choices and Consequences

As leaders, we accept the responsibility and duty of developing and mentoring those we have been given the opportunity to lead. We train, motivate and foster these members, providing the tools necessary to make good decisions, meet mission objectives, and continue to grow.

As individuals, we are free to make our own decisions, but we are not free of the consequences they may bring. Famed motivational speaker Tony Robbins said, "Your life changes the moment you make a new, congruent, and committed decision."

Whether on the job or in your personal life, we are met daily with choices and decisions to make.

The path we follow in life, and the consequences we endure, good or bad, are a result of those daily decisions. The difference between failure and success may very well come down to a single choice.

In the decision formula, a choice is made, its actions play out, and the consequence is the result. We are at times met with a difficult decision to make, but we do not always have to make that decision alone. Remember there are those around us who have been in similar situations, who have already learned from their mistakes or experienced success with the choices they have made.

Should you find yourself in a situation where the choice is not clear, reach out to those who you trust and

admire. Do not let fear or lack of confidence influence you to sit idly.

By doing nothing, you have still made a choice and are still subject to its consequence.

As you venture through life, having made an infinite amount of decisions and gained valuable life experience, share those experiences with those who you will develop and mentor.

The definition of right or wrong may differ from individual to individual, but the freedom of choice belongs to that individual, as well as its accompanying results. The choices you make today affect the life you lead tomorrow.

# 144th Fighter Wing Airmen, Working Around the World



As 144th Fighter Wing Airmen prepared to depart for deployments during the month of July, they were seen off by family, friends and fellow Wingmen. Even though a large contingency of 144th FW Airmen recently returned from a Theater Security Package in the eastern Pacific, individual members continue to be deployed all around the globe in support of various world-wide missions. (Top Left) Master Sgt. Knour Nauk (in white shirt), (Right) Staff Sgt. Marisha Robinson (in red sweatshirt), Staff Sgt. Kyle Bryan (in brown T-shirt), and (Bottom Left) Tech Sgt. La Vang (in uniform) stand for photos at the Fresno International Airport before departing. (Courtesy photos)

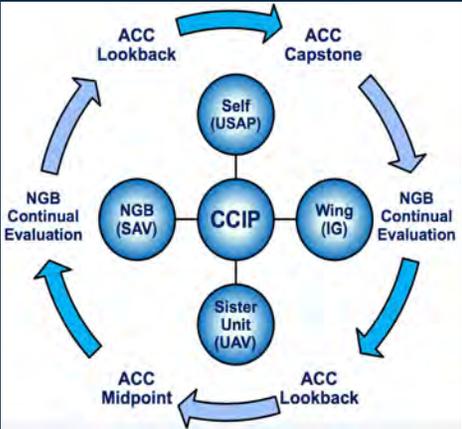
# What is a UEI Midpoint Evaluation?

By Capt. Jason Sanchez, 144th Public Affairs Office

Fresno Air National Guard Base, Calif.— The 144th Fighter Wing’s Midpoint Unit Effectiveness Inspection is quickly approaching, so inspectors from the Air Combat Command Inspector General’s office will be here Sept. 5 through 9 to conduct the inspections.

The UEI is part of the overall Commander’s Inspection Program, which emphasizes self-assessment. Both the UEI and the CCIP focus on four Major Graded Areas: Executing the Mission, Managing Resources, Leading People and Improving the Unit.

The UEI cycle validates and verifies the CCIP for accuracy, adequacy, and relevance. It also provides an independent assessment of the four MGAs. The UEI is an ongoing inspection that occurs every four years. The Midpoint inspection marks 24 months into the inspection cycle, and the completion of the UEI, after 48 months, is called the Capstone. During the



first 12 months and between 24 and 36 months of the cycle, a virtual inspection, or a continual inspection, occurs. Once the Capstone is completed the UEI cycle begins again.

The CCIP self-assessments are based on the priorities of the wing commander at all levels. They ensure the wing, groups, squadrons, and flights are mission ready, efficient, compliant, and continually improving.

To document these self-assessments, one of the tools that offices and shops use is the Management Internal Control Toolset. The MICT is a system used to report compliance and discrepancies up the chain of command. It is continually reviewed at the Major Command level. The MICT is required to be regularly updated. All items should be locked and validated before the end of each 12 month cycle.

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Elizabeth Negrete, Self-Assessment Program Manager, said, “A robust Self-Assessment Program includes many items that wing, group, and squadron commanders assess on a weekly, monthly and semi annual basis.”

A crucial element of the Unit Self-Assessment Program is the Wing Inspection Team. The WIT



An Air Combat Command Inspector General inspector observes an Airman as he performs maintenance checks. (U.S. Air Force Courtesy Photo)

members are chosen by wing commanders and are Subject Matter Experts in their respective fields. They evaluate exercises and inspections with oversight from the wing Self-Assessment Program Manager and the IG office. The WIT members then submit their observations and log discrepancies into the Inspector General Evaluation Management System.

“MICT and IGEMS are mandatory parts of a SAP, but there are many other programs units use to self-assess, such as: training, readiness reporting, standardization and evaluation programs, wing exercises, quality assurance programs, and several others.”

# Develop a Lifestyle of Asking Questions

By Dr. Stephanie Grant, Director of Psychological Health

Why is the practice of asking questions a valuable habit to form? As I was considering the practice of asking questions in my own experience, with clients, students, mentors, including questions that I pose to myself, I was reminded of the significance it has had on me. A quick Google search will expose numerous quotes pointing to the usefulness of a good question.

“Life is an unanswered question, but let’s still believe in the dignity and importance of the question.” – Tennessee Williams

“The best scientists and explorers have the attributes of kids! They ask questions and have a sense of wonder. They have curiosity. ‘Who, what, where, why, when and how!’ They never stop asking questions, and I never stop asking questions, just like a five year old.” – Sylvia Earle

“The greatest gift is not being afraid to question.” – Ruby Dee

According to author and leadership expert, Dr. John Maxwell, “If you want to be successful

and reach your potential, you need to embrace asking questions as a lifestyle.” Dr. Maxwell offers some compelling reasons why getting in the habit of asking questions is a valuable “go-to” practice for our daily lives.

**Questions unlock and open doors that otherwise remain closed.** There are numerous kinds of possible opportunities, experiences, and people that can be hidden behind closed doors. Questions are the keys to opening these doors.

**Questions are the most effective means of connecting with people and engaging others in conversation.** Asking questions of others and getting to know them is one of the best ways of building a relationship with them.

**Questions cultivate humility.** Posing questions with humility helps us to be trustworthy, authentic, and vulnerable during our engagement with others. People are often more open to those that engage openly with them.

**Questions allow us to build better ideas.** What is the key to shared thinking? Engaging

with others and asking questions to foster shared understanding and knowledge.

**Questions give us a different perspective.** When you ask questions and then listen carefully and intentionally to the answers, you can discover important perspectives you may not have considered before. This is important because we often make faulty assumptions about other people and we can correct those wrong assumptions and prevent miscommunication by asking questions.

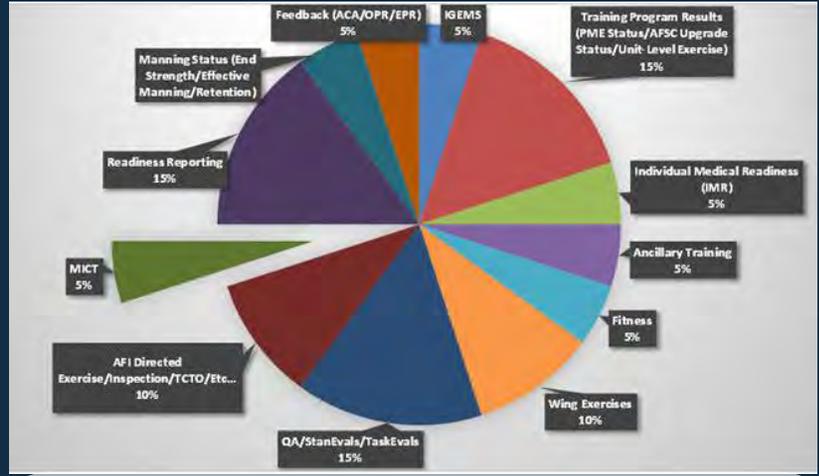
**Questions challenge mindsets and get you out of ruts.** Questions are the key to discovery and innovation. If you want to make discoveries, if you want to disrupt the status quo, if you want to make progress and find new ways of thinking and doing, you need to ask questions.

**Make asking questions an intentional practice in your life.** What questions have others asked of you that have had a positive impact on your life? What questions have you asked others that are helping you right now? Good questions inform and great questions have the ability to transform us.

# What is a UEI Midpoint Evaluation?

Maj. Dorian Sherman, 144th FW Director of Inspections, discussed the role of the ongoing inspections. He explained that all Airman have a role in identifying deficiencies and reporting them up the chain of command as they are encountered.

“A daily evaluation should become part of our DNA. It’s something that we do everyday,” said Sherman. “We should be incrementally improving. It’s about working together with other units on the base to complete the mission.”



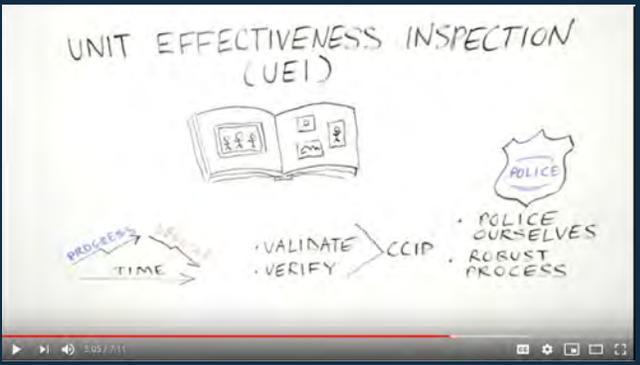
As part of the Commander’s Inspection Program, the Unit Self-Assessment Program includes many items, including the Management Internal Control Toolset and the Inspector General.

Negrete emphasized the importance of honesty when entering items into the systems.

“It is important to embrace the ‘No.’ If we find a process that is broken, can identify it, and create a corrective action plan, then we are one step closer to a successful Self-Assessment Program.”

Negrete also reiterated that because these inspections are ongoing, the wings programs should be regularly updated and always be ready to be inspected.

“Mission Readiness is Inspection Readiness,” said Negrete.



The video “Air Force Inspection System Training Video - 2015” published by Utah Air Guard on youtube.com explains the Unit Effectiveness Inspection Cycle and the Commander’s Inspection Program.

# Commanders Announced

Maj. Gen. Gregory Jones, California Air National Guard commander, officially announced two senior leadership positions in an email to all 144th Fighter Wing personnel, Aug. 1, 2019, effective immediately.

**Col. Jeremiah Cruz**  
**144 Fighter Wing Commander**

**Lt. Col. Robert Swertfager**  
**144th Operations Group Commander**

# Yellow Ribbon Event

The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program event will be held August 17, 2019 in Visalia, California. National Guard members are required to attend this event if it is their first deployment or if they have been deployed for at least 90 days.



Airmen need to register by August 5, 2019. For questions, please contact Steve Formack, the Yellow Ribbon Coordinator, at (909) 731-5735. To register for the event, please access their website at: <https://www.yellowribbon.mil/event-listing>.



## A Base Tour for Nathan

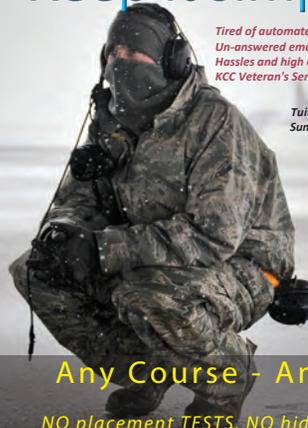
Nathan Ledezma and his father, Guadalupe Ledezma, check out the 144th Fighter Wing's Striker Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting vehicle during a tour of the Fresno Air National Guard base July 23, 2019. Nathan, who is a patient at Adventist Health Medical Office-Reedley Children's Health was diagnosed with brainstem glioma, which is a rare type of cancer. His father and the 144th Fighter Wing organized the tour to support Nathan and his family's positive attitude as he continues with treatment.



## Keep it simple, student!

Tired of automated phone menus that lead nowhere? High book costs? Un-answered emails? Unresponsive students services departments? Hassles and high costs sending transcripts to the CCAF or another college? KCC Veteran's Services department provides excellent customer service!!

Tuition Assistance covers the cost of the course - No fees!! Summer and Fall term registration begins 6 May 2019!



CCAF  
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KCC  
Klamath Community College

CCAF  
approved

Any Course - Any Term - **Online**

NO placement TESTS, NO hidden FEES, Minimal Book Costs

Fall 2019  
9/30/2019 - 12/13/2019  
MTH105M.01DE  
SPE111M.01DE  
WR121M.01DE  
PSY201M.01DE  
MUS206M.01DE  
PHL204M.01DE  
HST201M.01DE  
SPA101M.01DE  
WR122M.01DE

Winter 2020  
1/6/20 - 3/12/20  
MTH105M.01DE  
SPE111M.01DE  
WR121M.01DE  
HST201M.01DE  
PHL204M.01DE  
SPA101M.01DE  
MUS206M.01DE  
WR122M.01DE

Spring 2020  
3/30/20 - 6/12/20  
MTH105M.01DE  
SPE111M.01DE  
WR121M.01DE  
PSY201M.01DE  
MUS206M.01DE  
HST201M.01DE  
PHL204M.01DE  
SPA101M.01DE  
WR122M.01DE

Summer 2019  
6/24/19 - 8/23/19  
MTH105M.01DE  
SPE111M.01DE  
WR121M.01DE  
HST201M.01DE  
PHL204M.01DE  
MUS206M.01DE  
SPA101M.01DE

### Klamath Community college 2018-19 Course Descriptions:

PHL204M.01DE - Philosophy of Religion (Humanities requirement for CCAF) \* MUS206M.01DE - History of Rock Music (Humanities requirement for CCAF) \* SPA101M.01DE - First Year Spanish (Humanities requirement for CCAF) \* PSY201M.01DE - General Psychology (Social Science requirement for CCAF) WR122M.01DE - IF English Composition I has been completed, can substitute for speech. HST201M.01DE - US History I (Social Science requirement for CCAF) \* MTH105M.01DE - Math In Society (Math requirement for CCAF) SPA101M.01DE - Speech (Oral Communication requirement for CCAF) \* WR121.01DE - English Composition I (Written Communication requirement for CCAF) \*

\* Indicates an Open Educational Resource (OER) course with little or no book costs!!!

If you are a first time student at Klamath Community College, please fill out the GEM application here: <https://www.klamathcc.edu/Admissions/Military-Services/GEM> Or call 541-880-2214 / 541-880-2389



## UTA Menu

Dining Facility open 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Meals are \$5.60 for AGR, officers, and members on orders.

### Saturday

Soup of the Day: Potato Bacon Soup  
Main Line: Lemon Herb Chicken Quarters, Swedish Meatballs, Egg Noodles  
Sides: Fiesta Blend Veggies, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Full Salad Bar  
Short Line: Hamburgers, Turkey Burgers, Chimichangas, French Fries, Onion Rings, & Mini Pizzas, Buttered Dinner Rolls

### Sunday

Soup of the Day: Chicken Noodle  
Main Line: Pork Chops, Beef Pot Roast  
Sides: Rice Pilaf, Mashed Potatoes w/ Mushroom Gravy, Oriental Blend Veggies, Corn, Buttered Dinner Rolls, Full Salad Bar  
Short Line: Hamburgers, Grilled Chicken Breast, French Fries, Onion Rings, & Corn Dogs

# Upcoming Events & Announcements

## Saturday, Aug. 3, 2019

- School Supply Giveaway
- 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Emergency Management classroom and the hangar orderly breakroom
- Hosted by Family Readiness

- Rising Six Council Meeting, the 144th FW Jr. Enlisted Council
- 12:30 p.m. in the Operations Main Briefing Room
- All members E-1 to E-6 are welcome

- Top Three Meeting
- 1 p.m. in the Maintenance Conference Room
- All E-7 and E-8 welcome to attend

- Catholic Mass
- 2 p.m. in the Heaquarter's Classroom

- Chief Master Sgt. Clinton Dudley, 144th FW Command Chief, Retirement Ceremony
- 2:00 p.m. in the Dining Facility

## Sunday, Aug 4, 2019

- EPR Writing Seminar
- 8 a.m. in the Dining Facility
- Seats are limited to the first 30
- Priority given to raters and supervisors

- School Supply Give Away
- 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Emergency Management classroom and the hangar orderly breakroom
- Hosted by Family Readiness

- Protestant Warship Service
- 11 a.m. in the Heaquarter's Classroom

## Upcoming Events

- Yellow Ribbon Event
- Saturday, August 17 in Visalia, California
- Please register for the event by Aug. 5

- Fresno Grizzly's 2019 Central Valley Salute to Service
- Aug. 30, 2019 at Chukchansi Park in Fresno, California
- Fresno Grizzlies vs. Albuquerque Isotopes
- Friday Fireworks and Paw Patrol Day
- To purchase tickets please visit <https://groupmatics.events/event/salutetoservice19>

## Upcoming Events (Continued)

- Airman of the Year Banquet
- Saturday, Nov. 2, 2019 in Fresno, California
- Contact your orderly room for more information

## Other Announcements

- Calling 911 Awareness for On-Base Emergencies
- If 911 is called from a landline, the on-base authority will be called and the on-base first responders will be contacted
- If 911 is called from a cellular phone, the caller will need to tell the 911 operator they are having an "Air Guard" emergency so that on-base authorities can respond

- Chemical Gear
- All base members who do not have training chemical gear, need to go to the Logistics Readiness Squadron and have it issued to them.
- The Mobility and Clothing Office is open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and closed for lunch from 11 a.m. to noon

- OCP Uniform Rollout
- Enlisted Airmen, contact your clothing representative or chief to place your order for the initial OCP issue. Forms are being completed by each squadron.

- UTA Schedule Changes for 2020
- January UTA will be a two-day drill
- February UTA has been moved to February 8 and 9
- March will be a four-day UTA from March 5 to 8
- July UTA is off

- Scheduled Munitions Inventory
- IAW AFMAN 21- 201 A3.2.1.7, The Munitions Flight will be conducting a 10% inventory Aug. 2-9

## Legal

- Legal assistance available UTA weekends and the Friday prior to UTA
- Walk-ins available Sun. 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Article 137 held in the Chapel at Sat. 3 p.m.
- Deploying before next UTA? - Come in anytime
- Call 454-5153 ahead of time to ensure someone is available
- For additional assistance visit: <https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil/lass/lass.html>

## Customer Service

- DEERS/ ID Cards
- Mon. to Fri. 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Walk in Hours
- Mon. to Fri. 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Appointments Only
- UTA Saturday: 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- UTA Sunday: 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- Note: ID card actions over UTA weekends are limited to wing members only. The Friday before every UTA we offer walk-ins from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m to 3:30 p.m. for wing members and their dependents.

- Renlistments, Extensions, Separations
- Mon., Tue., Thu, Fri: 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- Wed 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- To schedule ID card appointments visit RAPIDS at: <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/appointment/building.aspx?BuildingId=605>
- Please direct any questions to Customer Service at 454-5274

## Airman and Family Readiness

- Please let your family and friends know that the 144th Airman and Family Readiness Office is here for them upon your absence! If there is anything they need or have questions about, please refer them to our office.
- Ms. Dorene Vierra, 144th Fighter Wing Airman and Family Readiness Program manager: Work: (559) 454-5383 Cell: (559) 530-7807. Please call me any time!
- Command Post's 24/7 number: (559) 454-5155. They are an important contact to relay information to commanders, chaplains or anyone else at the Wing.

## Medical Group

- UTA Weekends Hours
- Saturday: 6 a.m. to 6:45 a.m. for physical training exemptions
- Sunday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. for due or overdue PHA items
- Customer Service Hours:
- Mon., Tue., Thu, Fri: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- Provider Schedule and Audiograms:
- Tue. 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Thur. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- By appointment only
- MGD Appointment Line: (559) 454-5247
- Closed every Wed.

## Public Affairs Shared Image Drive

- Images taken by Public Affairs are now available on base through a shared drive. Any one intrested in these images can map your base computer to \\144fw-fs-v7\publicmedia.

# AFTERBURNER



## Vision

Provide disaster and combat ready forces to our civilian and combatant commanders

## Mission Statement

**Federal Mission** - The 144th Fighter Wing is to provide Air Superiority in support of worldwide joint operations as well as Air Defense of the United States. Additionally, the Wing provides agile combat support, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance to combatant commanders around the globe. The Wing also provides a variety of homeland defense capabilities to U.S. NORTHCOM.

**State Mission** - The 144th Fighter Wing provides a variety of Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) capabilities to the Governor of California. Primary contributions include Ready manpower, reconnaissance assets, response to chemical, biological and radiological attacks, security, medical, civil engineering and command and control.



Congratulations to the 144th Fighter Wing's newest Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle operator, Airman Basic Cody James Schlenzig who recently graduated from technical school in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. (Courtesy photo)

## Wing Priorities

1. Be Ready to Deploy at a Moment's Notice.  
All 144th Fighter Wing Airmen will be combat ready whenever the Combatant Commander calls or a deployment tasking is assigned.
2. Be Ready to Perform our State Mission.  
All Airmen must be ready when the Governor calls and needs the support of the 144th Fighter Wing.
3. Continue Alert Operations.  
We have a 24/7/365 alert mission -- we must flawlessly continue to execute that mission.

## Commander's Priorities

1. People
2. Mission
3. Mentorship
4. Internal Controls