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ONLINE NEWSLETTER

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The Return of the 64th Air Refueling Squadron to Pease Air National Guard Base

by SSgt Laurence Limlengco, AMC

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Air and ground crews with the 64th Air Refueling Squadron participated in the first flight fully generated by all 64th ARS personnel on Jan. 19, 2023 at Pease Air National Guard Base, New Hampshire. The mission showcased the growing capabilities of the 64th ARS since the unit was stood up in July of 2022 with 37 Air Force specialties. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Victoria Nelson)



SSgt Laurence Limlengco showing SrA Jordan Sherman how to file a DTS voucher.

Background

Portsmouth, New Hampshire -- The 64th Air Refueling Squadron (ARS) recently reactivated and is the only active duty squadron at Pease Air National Guard Base (ANGB) in New Hampshire. The primary mission of 64 ARS is to refuel aircraft using the KC-46 Pegasus. Our Airmen came from all over the world, growing our squadron from 6 personnel to 135 in about 18 months, with jobs ranging across 37 Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSCs). Most positions have integrated closely with New Hampshire's Air National Guard members and civilians. Despite its close proximity to the 66th Air Base Group at Hanscom Air Force Base (AFB), the squadron falls under the 22d Operations Group at McConnell AFB for administrative and funding purposes, and under the 157th Air Refueling Wing (ARW) for taskings and operations.

Resource Advisor Experience and Perspective

Counting deployment, this is my fourth assignment, and is handsdown the most unique. When I was first notified of this new assignment, I thought it was a mistake. I had never heard of Pease Air Force Base in New Hampshire, or of sending a Finance troop there. Since arriving, we have faced our share of hurdles, as most of our surrounding support agencies were not used to having our squadron there. To put this into perspective, our closest medical facility is on a Naval Shipyard in another state, and our closest servicing Financial Services Office (FSO), Military Personnel Flight, Installation Personnel Readiness, and Base Exchange is at Hanscom AFB, also in a different state. Due to the lack of appropriate facilities, the alternate components for the Air Force Physical Fitness Test needed to be scheduled at Hanscom's fitness center. Regular procedures, that a normal activeduty unit would ordinarily have in place, still needed to be established, from where to order quarterly/annual awards to the entire Drug Demand Reduction Program (DDRP).



The Return of the 64th Air Refueling Squadron to Pease Air National Guard Base (cont.)



As the only active duty 6F (Financial Manager) on base, it is easy to feel isolated. It made sense for me to serve as the liaison between the 64th in New Hampshire and the 66th in Massachusetts for in-processing and pay issues. I have not been in a traditional FSO since 2018 and was quickly humbled by how much has changed... like the Comptroller Services Portal! Additionally, the introduction of extended Temporary Lodging Expense (TLE) was a brand-new process. Our Military Housing Area was designated as a location with a housing shortage, authorizing personnel with up to 60 days of TLE. We had members awaiting reimbursement for more than six months, and even as an FMer myself, I waited for nine months. Thanks to our First Sergeant, this issue was escalated to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, who ultimately provided us with a way forward.

With no official housing office, we designated our Military and Family Readiness Center (M&FRC) representative as our Housing Official to verify members were actively searching for adequate housing while residing in temporary accommodations. We created a checklist utilizing Joint Travel Regulations (JTR) verbiage to capture the legalities M&FRC would use to substantiate our members' necessities for the extension. Without explicitly written or visual guidance, we improvised to create a product we could utilize. As anyone who has PCS'd understands, the back and forth, wait times, and uncertainty was incredibly frustrating to all those affected. The addition of this routing element helped us streamline the entire process for the future. Hanscom AFB was a critical asset during this entire ordeal, and despite these challenges, it was a positive learning experience for us.

Accomplishments and Goals

Our Squadron Innovation Fund (SIF) program funding kicked off the base's innovation team, and our Unfunded Requirements (UFR) program funding initiated the first digital mission paperwork process within the Host Aviation and Squadron Aviation Resource Management (HARM/SARM) shops. Cold weather items needed to be ordered. Likewise, aircrew needed Electronic Flight Bags (EFBs) and headsets. A new training regime, leveraging virtual reality, was introduced to aircrew and maintenance personnel. Maintenance was outfitted with protective equipment and obtained funding to send their members on temporary duty travel (TDY) for training. Lastly, a much-needed tech refresh was accomplished. Thanks to the support from the 22d at McConnell AFB, we were able to procure these items and arm our entire squadron to be mission and safety ready.

There has been a lot of relationship building, storytelling, and growth throughout the past few months, and we hope to continue developing these relationships. "Our vision is to be the nation's premier Total Force Integration Team and I'd argue that we are on the path, especially within AMC," stated Lt Col Brandon Stock, Commander of 64 ARS. He continued, "We are leading the way as the nation's first Active Associate KC-46 Squadron and fully integrated with a renowned Total Force Integration (TFI) ANG Wing that continues to showcase what the KC-46 is capable of."

Conclusion

It has been exciting seeing firsthand how funding ties into an operational flying mission. From TDYs, Operation and Maintenance (O&M) dollars, and SIF, Finance along with the 36 other AFSCs all play their part in making the mission happen. It has been a ride thus far, but we are all looking forward to the future and watching the 64th Phoenix Phamily grow as a squadron.

About the Author

SSgt Laurence Limlengco is the Resource Advisor for the 64th Air Refueling Squadron located at Pease Air National Guard Base, New Hampshire.



Transforming Deployment Entitlement Processing

by TSgt Anthony Reyna and SrA Dustin Huynh, USAFE



Senior Airman Dustin Huynh is a Financial Operations Technician at the 86th Comptroller Squadron, Ramstein AB, Germany. He is part of a 6-man Defense Travel System (DTS) team that services 56,000 personnel across 33 Commands in United States Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa (USAFE-AFARICA), 3 MAJCOMS,

NATO Air Command Headquarters, Numbered Air Force (NAF), 3 Wings, and 75 Mission Partners. SrA Huynh's team struggled to effectively manage entitlements for Airmen deployed to Africa while managing all the other Lead Defense Travel Administrator responsibilities. SrA Huynh identified the team was experiencing a challenge and utilized his forward-thinking mindset to optimize the program.

To proactively tackle this challenge, SrA Huynh participated in the Financial Management **Robotic Process Automation** (RPA) Citizen Developer course held at Joint Base San Antonio in 2023. This comprehensive course not only served as a catalyst, but also provided an invaluable platform for him to significantly augment his coding proficiency. Inspired by this educational experience, SrA Huynh is now exploring innovative ways to strategically apply his newly acquired expertise, with the ultimate goal of elevating mission efficiency and contributing to organizational success.



SrA Dustin Huynh, Financial Operations Technician at the 86th Comptroller Squadron, utilizing the DD I I 4 tool he created to expedite the processing of deployed entitlements for Airmen and Guardians deployed to Africa.



SrA Dustin Huynh training SrA Sierra Napier and SrA Darryl James on the DD 114 tool he created.

The three of them make up the 86 CPTS DTS Team.

Empowered by the knowledge gained from the course, SrA Huynh created an innovative tool that streamlined the process of validating and inputting entitlements for Airmen deployed to Africa. Prior to the development of this tool, his team grappled with the arduous task of manually inputting each entitlement transaction on a DD Form 114 while being limited to just 15 transactions per sheet. This laborious process extended to supervisors, who were required to meticulously review and certify each sheet through signature authentication.

Through his adept coding skills, SrA Huynh integrated functionalities for Combat Zone Tax Exclusion, Hardship Duty Pay, and Imminent Danger Pay/Hostile Fire Pay. He tailored adjustments based on deployment location and the member's rank status, including both enlisted and commissioned officers. By automating and customizing these entitlement sheets, SrA Huynh's tool enhanced efficiency and minimized errors, ensuring accurate and timely processing of crucial financial benefits for deployed Airmen.

Transforming Deployment Entitlement Processing (cont.)



SrA Huynh's solution alleviated challenges by enabling mass inputting of entitlements received from our Finance counterparts deployed to the 406th Air Expeditionary Wing. His tool also significantly reduced the time and effort required for processing. With the capacity to successfully process hundreds of transactions within minutes, the new tool not only expedited the workflow but also ensured accuracy and compliance.

With the ability to simultaneously review and certify 50 entries (rather than separate transactions with signatures every 15 entries) the tedious and error-prone task of manual inputting became a thing of the past. This tool has delivered measurable results: reducing military pay rejects by 47% and saving the team over 240 man-hours annually.

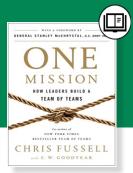
SrA Dustin Huynh's initiative and dedication exemplify the Air Force's commitment to innovation and excellence in supporting its personnel worldwide. His groundbreaking solution not only addressed a specific challenge, but also set a new standard for efficiency in financial operations. Additionally, his innovation led to a strategic partnership with TekSouth; together, they are aiming to create a permanent tool that can be utilized Air Force wide.

About the Author

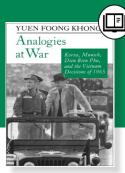
TSgt Anthony Reyna is the NCOIC of Financial Operations and SrA Dustin Huynh is a Financial Operations Technician, both for the 86th Comptroller Squadron located at Ramstein AB, Germany.

Leaping Into the 2024 Leadership Library

With the start of the new year, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force (CSAF) Gen David Allvin has published his annual additions to the CSAF Leadership Library. "The pursuit of knowledge is a lifelong journey," said Gen Allvin, "...we are never truly done learning as every experience and interaction offers an opportunity to expand our understanding of the world."



One Mission: How Leaders Build a Team of Teams by Chris Fussell



Analogies at War by Yuen Foong Khong



Master of Change, Ep. 542: How to Excel When Everything is Changing (Including You) by Brad Stulberg



The Path to Al Arms Control: America and China Must Work Together to Avert Catastrophe by Henry Kissinger and Graham Allison

Consider incorporating these thought pieces into your continued learning and leadership journey, and peruse the CSAF Leadership Library where you will find the 2024 reading list as well as those from previous years.

You can also find Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force (CMSAF) JoAnne Bass' January 2024 additions to the CMSAF Leadership Library for even more reading and listening material HERE!



Four and Out

by CMSgt Kristopher Coats, AMC



I was dead wrong, and it led to the best 25+ years of my life. From an early age, I swore I would never EVER join the military. However, after failing my cost accounting class twice, I was kicked out of Eastern Illinois' Business School and was left with \$10K in student loan debt. So, I found myself at the position of attention playing "pickem up, putem down" at midnight with forty of my newest friends at basic training. Twenty-five years later, I am preparing for retirement and would like to share some key lessons that I have come to believe are true. Take them for what you will, but keeping an open mind will give you a new perspective—and perspective, in my opinion, is the most powerful gift we can give each other.



Side by side of my BMT photo and my latest official photo as CMSgt.

"You will never have more time for yourself than you do right now."

"The best time to plant a shade tree was 20 years ago, the second-best time is right now. Do not concern yourself with why something was not done, just do it."

Leadership: Two statements I often hear are, "It's leadership, not likership," and "Leadership is lonely." However, I would argue if you are not concerned about whether people see you as a

human being (likership), then your decisions lack empathy. Additionally, while decision-makers do not owe anyone an explanation, I find those who have taken a more deliberate approach are the ones open to explaining their decisions and having discussions which bring people in instead of push them away. These individuals create an environment of trust, respect, and increased productivity because they are willing to explain the "why."

Authenticity: Our Airmen deserve peers, supervisors, mentors, and leaders who are technically proficient and genuinely care about others. **We are too small for you to ascend to positions of authority by pretending to be someone you are not.** If your authentic ability tops out at a staff sergeant, master sergeant, captain, or lieutenant colonel, then so be it. I would much rather have you be an outstanding technical sergeant than a mediocre master sergeant; our Airmen deserve the best at every echelon. If promotion is a priority for you, I challenge you to understand everything required of you at the next rank, and if you are not willing to commit the time and effort, DO NOT promote.

Success: It is important for you to have a personal definition of success. If you are married or part of a household team, it should be a shared definition and reassessed often. The moment the price of success exceeds what you are willing to pay, it is time to redefine.

Work-Life Balance: I consider this phrase to be the greatest myth espoused by leaders. It is a wonderful idea, but it simply does not exist if you desire to become a senior leader in the Air Force, at least not in a 50/50 sense. Setting yourself apart from your peers takes time and effort away from your family. To be honest, the Air Force will take whatever you are willing to give it: 100%, 80 hours a week, even your family. My advice is to BE PRESENT! When you are at work, be at work and when you are at home, be at home. Only true emergencies should take your attention from your current priority. No one will text or email you an emergency, and if they do, shame on them. If the work phone dings at dinner, it can wait. Take work home but do it before the family wakes up or after they go to bed. Include your family where you can, take your kids to Airman Leadership School (ALS) graduations; your spouse is tired of dry chicken anyway. At the pinnacle of your career, you should not look back and feel like a failure for not having the work-life balance everyone talked about. You define success by yourself or as a team; if where you are is what you define as success, congratulations!



Four and Out (cont.)





My Why, left to right, Daughter Anna, Me, Daughter Claudia, and my wife Catherine.



2012 photo of our CAOC Crew, left to right, Me, MSgt Pam Binnie, Capt Ceasar Jesus, CMSgt James Bartolome, Lt Col Michael Bennett.



Me with the legend, Mike Ashby, himself in Germany.



Inaugural Operational Contract Support Joint Exercise 2015 (OCSJX-15) FM White Cell photo.



Supporting SNCO Induction Ceremony.



Jingles Run 2012 with MSgt Jason Haynes.

Mission First vs. People First: This is an unfair question; one does not exist without the other, nor can they both be first.

Morale: If you are in an environment where you feel valued, seen, and necessary to the success of the mission and you are still unhappy, that, my friend, is completely on you, and you should consider doing something else when the time comes. **Find your purpose.**

Records Reviews: Understand you can do everything recommended and not promote while conversely do nothing recommended and find yourself with a line number. An Airman that is strong in performance, development, and involvement will have a more competitive record than an Airman strong in performance and development but average in involvement. Referring to authenticity, you need to take the advice and decide if you have the bandwidth and desire to improve your record because you are willing to make the sacrifices required of the next rank and not just receive the pay increase.

There you have it, twenty-five years in nine hundred words. There is no checklist to Chief nor a single path that works for everyone. The days pass slow, but the years fly by. Observe people, compare your observations to what you have always thought to be true, recognize and appreciate being wrong. Care for the people on your left and right because this is a team sport and they are family. Thank you for your service. Aim High!!

About the Author

CMSgt Kris Coats is the Chief Enlisted Manager for HQ AMC Financial Management Directorate located at Scott AFB, Illinois.



Returning PCS Processing to Base Level

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by SrA Soorya Deepak, AFDW

Back in 2022, the Travel Pay Processing Ellsworth (TPPE) initiated the direct center test phase. In this phase, select base-level finance offices no longer assisted customers in preparing and submitting Permanent Change of Station (PCS) or reserve travel vouchers. Instead, the TPPE team took over the customer service role, marking a significant change for affected bases. This change allowed Comptroller Squadrons (CPTS) to let go of a fast-moving, high-stress program and allocate their resources elsewhere. Joint Base (JB) Andrews (316 CPTS) was one of the test bases, and I had the privilege of witnessing it firsthand.

However, nothing lasts forever. In March 2023, the test phase concluded at 316 CPTS, and a new travel team was established. This team consisted of one non-commissioned officer, one senior airman, two airman first class (including myself), and an airman. Due to a high turnover rate and an influx of new tech school graduates, no onsite tendencies had experience with the travel voucher review process that could provide us with turnover training. Fortunately, we received direct training from TPPE's Quality Assurance Manager, Mr. Paul Hartness, who equipped us to handle various aspects of travel.



SrA Soorya Deepak and the 316 CPTS emblem at JB Andrews.

Initially, adapting to this new responsibility proved challenging. Most of us had never worked with reserve travel or PCS vouchers before. In addition to understanding the technical aspects of this subject matter, managing the voucher workload of a high-tempo base like JB Andrews was a significant hurdle that we are still optimizing to this day. Furthermore, two of our team members were new Airmen from technical training school. Over time, we developed a working structure, and part of that was me taking the lead on all things civilian PCS. It was quite a challenge, as adjusting to the relatively higher complexity of civilian PCS compared to active-duty PCS required a higher level of attention to detail and the need to learn new concepts in travel pay.

Luckily, TPPE had a guide that outlined the particulars for each entitlement, helping me slowly grasp the intricacies involved with civilian PCS. These entitlements have a high monetary value and can be uniquely applied to each civilian order. Additionally, I found that civilian employees PCS less often and do not receive timely briefings on their entitlements. Dealing with numerous customer mistakes became a routine part of the job, and after a particularly stressful morning, I decided to be proactive. I created two pages of instructions on how to submit civilian PCS travel claims. Upon implementation, there was a clear difference in the number of mistakes made and the amount of work needed on each case. Most importantly, we paid our customers faster.

Eventually, it came time to iterate and improve, and guides for the following four to five common PCS claims became my next project. I worked with TPPE's civilian PCS team and received invaluable feedback. Recognizing that other CPTS might struggle with civilian PCS, as I initially did, I emailed the Financial Information Collaboration Space (FICS) and presented what I created. With some help from the RTC team, I was able to share what I have learned across the enterprise!

Visit FICS 2.0 to find SrA Deepak's Civilian PCS Guide and Forms published under document ID 862 HERE!

About the Author

SrA Soorya Deepak is the Financial Operations Technician for the 316 CPTS located at Joint Base Andrews, MD.



SYSTEMS CORNER DEAMS Corner

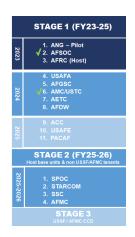


Mr. Todd M. Baker, Senior Financial Operations and Business Transformation Advisor

Legacy to DEAMS (L2D) Update

Migrating business from General Accounting and Finance System (GAFS) to Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management System (DEAMS) is a priority for the Department of the Air Force, and the DEAMS Functional Management Office (FMO) continues to support this priority through Legacy to DEAMS (L2D) Implementations. This program began in FY23 with the specific goal of moving transactions out of the GAFS and the Integrated Accounts Payable System (IAPS). To meet this goal, the DEAMS Deployment/ Training Team developed and piloted a process to assist each Command with transitioning line items remaining in these systems.





Since this program kicked off, L2D implementations were launched with teams on the ground at eight Major Commands (MAJCOMs), as shown in the schedule on the left, with Air Force District of Washington (AFDW) being the most recent addition at the beginning of February 2024. Two MAJCOMs have successfully completed their implementations with zero transactions remaining in GAFS, and others are close to completion with only a few lines remaining for each Command. Our goal is to have all current efforts completed by the end of FY24.

The MAJCOM L2D implementations started with a baseline of \$667M in GAFS that needed to be attacked. Since then, the team has assisted Commands with transferring approximately \$276M worth of obligations from GAFS to DEAMS and deobligating \$95M.

In addition to the MAJCOM-specific implementations, the team has tackled a multitude of program-specific projects. They recently completed the transfer of U.S. Air Forces in Europe

(USAFE) Construction Contracts from GAFS to DEAMS and are engaged with Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) to explore several initiatives with the Air Force Sustainment Center and the Air Force Lifecycle Management Center. Additionally, reimbursable Military Personnel (MILPERS) budget is being phased into DEAMS throughout FY24 in coordination with SAF/FMB, and efforts continue to shift the Air National Guard Fuels program to DEAMS.

Development Update

LEGACY LINE OF ACCOUNTING UPDATES TO STANDARD LINE OF ACCOUNTING

An update made on 27 January to the Purchase Request Data Standard (PRDS) outbound interface from DEAMS affects Form 9 data sent to contract writing systems (CON-IT, PD2, and AWCS).

For Form 9s originating in DEAMS, the Legacy Line of Accounting (LOA) data is updated to reflect a Standard LOA (SLOA). A SLOA comprises 26 elements from the Standard Financial Information Structure (SFIS) and allows for a more accurate collection of financial data. PRDS files received by contracting before this release will contain the Legacy LOA. Any PRDS files sent after the 27th will contain the new delimitated SLOA format.

Due to this update, no additional changes to existing processes or contracts are required. Additional information can be

DELIMINATED SLOA:^^057^2024^2024^3400^000^254^D^011R^^057008711^387700^F18AD^374487^0202178F^^254.3101^E200009858^vs.

LEGACY LOA: 5743400 304 F18AD 374487 01 5703A 22178F 387700 F87700 7C

found on the DEAMS-PRDS LOA to SLOA news page on the DEAMS Outreach Portal.



SYSTEMS CORNER

DEAMS Corner (cont.)



CONTRACT PRE-AWARD VALIDATION

As promised, on 12 February 2024, the DEAMS FMO delivered functionality for contract pre-award validation in DEAMS, improving the timeliness of automatic posting following contract award. When a contracting officer initiates a draft award of a contract, Contracting-Information Technology (CON-IT) will perform a funds check and data validation with DEAMS to see if funds are still available and if the contract will automatically post or not. Once this check is complete, DEAMS will generate a response back, informing the contracting officer if funds are available and if errors were found in processing the draft contract action. Any errors will be displayed to the contracting officer, who can then correct the error encountered. More information, including a guide for resolving errors encountered, is available on the DEAMS Outreach Portal.

INTEREST PENALTY PAYMENTS

The DEAMS program also installed an updated Interest Penalty Payments process during the first weekend in February. Interest payments using Transportation Working Capital Funds (TWCF) will prorate to the same LOA as the contract payment for which the penalty incurred. In contrast, Air Force and other non-TWCF interest payments will be charged to a central, current year Operation and Maintenance (O&M) LOA. This change will continue to support the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the TWCF financial audit Notice of Findings and Recommendation (NFR) and improve proper accountability and auditability of payments. It also reinstates the previous Air Force-wide process to charge a central LOA for all non-TWCF interest penalties accrued.

For more information on any of these exciting updates, please view the rotating news pages on the <u>DEAMS Outreach Portal</u>, ask questions in the <u>DEAMS Users Group</u>, or email the <u>DEAMS Strategic Communications Team at <u>safdeams.stratcomms@us.af.mil</u>.</u>



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SYSTEMS CORNER

AFAOC Focuses on Target Loads, Deobligations & Customer Support

by Ms. Jenny Beer, Director, AFAOC

The Air Force Accounting Operations Center (AFAOC) is making target load management a priority in FY24, especially under Continuing Resolution Authority (CRA). As we work through Q2, we'd like to remind customers of the resources available to them regarding Target Loads, as well as provide updates on our Dormant Miscellaneous Obligation Reimbursement Documents (MORD) Performance Countermeasures and the upcoming SAF/FMF Self Service Portal transition for incident tickets for AFAOC-supported AFFSO Systems.



Managing Target Loads

Target Loads posted under a CRA differ from Target Loads for an approved Appropriation. Funds Control parameters are set to allow flexibility to accomplish the mission. As such, FY24 Operation and Management (O&M) funds availability is checked against the Available Unobligated balance at the Fund and Operating Entity (OE) level. There is no need to divide CR authority among different Budget Authorities (BA) as there is additional workload required to reverse the emergency Target Loads once you receive initial distribution.

For real-time management of your Target Loads, check out the DEAMS Users Group blog post <u>Live Target Load Balancing with Funds Available Inquiry</u> to explore how to balance Target Loads using Funds Available Inquiry. We have also posted <u>Target Load Accuracy Tool (TLAT) v3.3.1</u> which addresses an FM Data Quality Service (DQS) file issue. Remember, this Excel-based TLAT is only intended for use as a preventive tool to eliminate errors before transactions are posted as approved.

Additionally, the January 2024 AFAOC Users Forum includes a detailed video on Conquering Target Load Balancing with information on creating and understanding funding documents, calculating Subsequently Available Authority (SAA), using Selective Transaction History (STH) to balance funding documents, balancing at the Command level, and 4th Quarter SAA. Check it out!

Dormant MORD Performance Countermeasures Update

On 1 November 2023, the Air Force Accounting and Finance Office (AFAFO) revised the **Dormant Accounting MORD Countermeasure policy** to include MORDs citing a Line of Accounting (LOA) of FY22 or prior that have been dormant for 180 days or more. AFAFO implemented a grace period through **31 March 2024** to allow bases sufficient time to validate the additional MORDs now included. The AFAOC MORD Countermeasure BOT will only deobligate MORDs marked Deobligate throughout this time period. Beginning in **April 2024**, the BOT will be reprogrammed to deobligate all Dormant Accounting MORDs meeting the parameters without comment and not marked as *Valid Obligation*. Effective immediately, users <u>should</u> select "21" and "22" from the *END POA* filter in Power BI to capture the complete list of MORDs now within scope of the Dormant Accounting MORD Countermeasure policy.

Don't Forget! SAF/FMF Self Service Portal Transition for Incident Tickets

AFAOC will transition electronic submission of AFFSO Systems incident tickets to the SAF/FMF Self Service Portal (SSP) on 1 April 2024. Ticket submissions provided through email will no longer be accepted after that date. Users are strongly encouraged to use the SSP now to familiarize themselves with the platform; DEAMS ticket submissions in SSP were mandated effective 1 January 2024. For more information, visit the SSP news page on the DEAMS Outreach Portal or ask questions in the SSP milBook group.



FM INCOMING



Unlock Your Potential with SAF/FM Contingency Training Courses

Elevate your skills with our cutting-edge virtual training courses, specifically designed for Air Force Financial Management personnel. This unit-led program begins every year in April and October, and enables you to work at your own pace with support from FM Silver Flag instructors.

Enrollment for April classes is open from 12 February to 15 March 2024! Sign up by accessing the SAF/FM Contingency Training MS Teams page using JOIN CODE: 3le921u.

Course Highlights:

- Proficiency Sustainment: Refresh your knowledge with courses like: Virtual A1 for Cashier/Customer Service/ Paying Agents, Virtual A2 for Financial Management NCOs, and Virtual A7 for Budget Technicians.
- Accessible Format: Enjoy the convenience of virtual instructor-led courses delivered via Microsoft (MS)
 Teams. Each course comprises 5 or 6 blocks with interactive sessions, knowledge assessments, and practical assignments. Monitor your journey through Power Apps in MS Teams with a comprehensive course schedule and enrollment tracking.
- Flexibility: Adapt to changes with make-up options available via recorded sessions. These courses are ideal for Guard and Reserve members to complete on drill weekends.
- New Features: Experience immediate feedback with integrated tests in MS Teams and explore hands-on activities in select courses.
- DoD FM Certification: Provide initial certification and CET credit.

More Information on FM Silver Flag and Contingency Virtual Training courses can be found on the <u>SAF/FM Contingency Training SharePoint</u> or <u>SAF/FM Contingency Training MS Teams</u>.

New CFM Incoming

Please join us in congratulating CMSgt Leah Anderson on her selection as our next Executive for Enlisted Matters (CFM)!

Chief Anderson will be joining SAF/FM from Air Education and Training Command with 25+ years of diverse FM experience.

We would also like to extend a sincere thank you to CMSgt Kaci Duhart for his dedication in this role these past three years, driving our FM workforce forward.

We look forward to Chief Anderson's leadership in shaping the future of FM and we are confident she will help us all **Aim High!**



