SAFMIONLINE VOLUME 20 ISSUE 08 NEVSILETTER THE ULTIMATE FORCE MULTIPLIER

IN THIS ISSUE

- **1-2** Introducing the Civilian Foundational Training Plan
- **3-4** Resource Optimization in the 57th Rescue Squadron: Fueling Innovation and Readiness for Special Warfare Missions
- **5-6** Commanding Under Fire – Addressing Customer Complaints
- 7 From Manual to Modern: SkillDAF's Path to a Scalable Cloud Solution
- 8-10 Systems Corner
 - **11** FM Incoming

SAF 🛐 FM

The Ultimate **F**orce **M**ultiplier



INTRODUCING THE CIVILIAN FOUNDATIONAL TRAINING PLAN

DAF FM Strategic Plan Connections

by Ms. April DeReus, SAF/FME

Formal education is a key part of developing Airmen's (military and civilian) professional and functional competence. Department of the Air Force (DAF) civilians have access to the following Financial Management formal courses: the Basic Financial Management Course (BFMC), Air and Space Professional Financial Management Course (A&S PFMC), and Defense Financial Management Course (DFMC). Each course has a specific target audience by grade and years of experience and has a limited number of seats available for civilians each academic year.

Recruiting and retaining talent are major components of the FM Strategic Plan Objective 1.1. When we recruit new talent, especially from industry, they may or may not come to us with Department of Defense (DoD) or DAF FM experience. If we want to retain that talent, we need to ensure they have the training needed to be successful in their role.

What happens when formal education isn't available or isn't the right fit for the individual based on their grade and experience? We received feedback from the field that foundational training was needed for GS-11 through GS-13s who are new to the FM career field. This grade range is not within the target grade level of GS-09 and below for BFMC and it also does not meet the desired 4-10 years of experience for A&S PFMC. This perceived training gap needed attention, and our team began efforts to build a training plan to address it.

At the beginning of October, SAF Workforce Development Division (SAF/FMEW) launched the <u>Civilian Foundational Training Plan (Civ FTP</u>) to address that exact issue within DAF/FM. The Civ FTP is a starting point for employees, supervisors, and managers to develop and hone their FM skills. It was carefully built after analyzing a multitude of courses available to our FM enterprise. Containing 156 courses, the document is organized by occupational series, acquisition, and fundamental course chapters. Within the occupational series and acquisition chapters, courses are aligned by FM competency, to include courses on data analytics. The fundamental courses are aligned around the leadership competencies (lead self, lead teams, lead people) and also incorporate data analytics.

Earn CET Credits!

Newsletters: 0.5 CET each Magazines: 1.5 CETs each Want to earn CET credit for reading this month's edition of the SAF/FM Online Newsletter? Complete a short quiz after reading the full publication. Access SAF/FM publications and their quizzes on <u>myFMHub</u>.

INTRODUCING THE CIVILIAN FOUNDATIONAL TRAINING PLAN (cont.)

5

While the plan was initially designed with new GS11-GS13 personnel in mind, we quickly realized it could be a valuable tool for any employee or their supervisor. Whether supervisors or managers choose to use this resource to assign courses to direct reports or add courses to their individual development plans (IDP), or an individual would like to find courses to further develop certain competencies, the Civ FTP is a tool to help select those courses.

The Civ FTP is a living document that our team will review and update as courses and needs change. For this reason, we encourage you to access the plan via myFMHub to ensure you always have the most up-to-date version. You can bookmark the direct link, or easily type "Civilian Foundational Training Plan" into the search bar on the top right of myFMHub to access.

About the Author

Ms. April DeReus is the Chief of SAF/FME Workforce Development Division, located at the Pentagon, Washington D.C.



Hispanic Heritage Month is observed from September 15th to October 15th. This month celebrates the rich history, vibrant cultures, and invaluable contributions of Hispanic and Latino communities. Visit our <u>Facebook</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u> pages to see how we celebrated our DAF FMers; including their background and fun facts about their heritage.

RESOURCE OPTIMIZATION IN THE 57TH RESCUE SQUADRON: Fueling Innovation and Readiness for Special Warfare Missions

DAF FM Strategic Plan Connections Goal 3 - Obj. 3.2

by Iona Rizzi P. Gregorio, USEUCOM

In the fast-paced world of Air Force Special Warfare (AFSPECWAR), missions involving high-risk combat rescue and personnel recovery require more than just physical and mental readiness. They demand precise financial management to ensure mission success. For AFSPECWAR units, like the 57th Rescue Squadron (RQS) at Aviano Air Base in Italy, effective resource allocation plays a crucial role in supporting the training, equipment, and technology needed to keep their elite personnel prepared for any situation. Financial management in the 57 RQS is not just about spending budget and balancing ledgers – it's about maintaining adaptability, innovation, and readiness for complex, unpredictable operations.

The 57 RQS operates with a high degree of specialization. Personnel such as pararescuemen (PJs) and combat rescue officers (CROs) are trained to conduct combat search and rescue (CSAR) missions under extreme conditions, often in hostile territory. This type of mission requires advanced skills and defense-grade equipment, all of which come at a significant cost. To maintain readiness, the financial managers ensure that every dollar allocated to these training programs is used effectively, keeping the squadron at peak operational capability.

For instance, operators (PJs and CROs) undergo continuous training in survival techniques, parachuting, scuba diving, and emergency medical procedures, which are critical for their missions. These training programs require extensive resources, from training hours and personnel to specialized equipment and facilities. Resource advisors play a key role in ensuring these programs are funded and prioritized, allowing the squadron to meet its demanding mission objectives without disruption. One of the biggest challenges in financial management for an AFSPECWAR unit is the need to adapt quickly to evolving mission requirements. Training and accreditation needs can shift unexpectedly from maintaining skill sets for operational use to specialized mission-specific demands. Resource Advisors need to be just as flexible, reallocating resources swiftly to meet emerging needs without compromising the day-to-day needs of the unit. In June of 2024, the operators underwent a jump saturation block training, contracting a commercial aircraft and coaching services, when tasked to provide jump insertion capabilities on both land/water environments in day/night conditions. This training is specifically designed to bring the operators with varying jump/parachuting skills to an acceptable level of proficiency to execute jump operations in a combat setting with acceptable risk levels.

The 57 RQS mission extends beyond personnel recovery and combat search and rescue operations. They also collaborate with allied and partner nations, as well as joint forces, to support the security cooperation objectives of United States European Command (USEUCOM), United States Africa Command (USAFRICOM), and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). The 57 RQS's participation in the Nordic Response 24 with the Swedish Air Force Rangers in Barduffoss,

Photo: 57th Rescue Squadron parachutes during a readiness training near Aviano Air Base, Italy on July 29, 2024. This readiness exercise validated their ability to airdrop tactical vehicles to assist in performing rescue operations. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jenna A. Bond)

RESOURCE OPTIMIZATION IN THE 57TH RESCUE SQUADRON: Fueling Innovation and Readiness for Special Warfare Missions (cont.)



Norway demonstrated the unit's commitment to strengthening international partnerships and multinational defense. This exercise is held biannually and unites over 20,000 personnel from 13 allied nations.

Alongside the 57 RQS's arctic operational capabilities, success of the exercise is largely dependent on the effective financial resourcing by advisors and managers at every level – from the squadron to the 31st Operations Group and the 31st Comptroller Squadron (CPTS). This coordinated effort ensures proper allocation of funds and resources at every aspect of the mission, from procurement of gears and equipment to logistics and deployment, allowing the operators to perform optimally while bolstering international partnerships.

As warfare continues to evolve, so must the tools and technologies. The 57 RQS being a Special Warfare Unit, relies on state-of-the-art technology to maintain an operational edge; advanced medical equipment, enhanced communication systems, and aerial delivery platforms are just a few examples.

One significant recent innovation is the 57 RQS's investment in small unmanned aerial systems (sUAS). The system uses artificial intelligence, 3D-Scan, and Night Sense machine learning to allow 24/7 flight capabilities in all-weather. It has a thermal sensor which enables quick heat signature detection, permitting the operator to identify isolated personnel during day and night search and rescue missions. These compact drones are a game-changer. They offer critical real-time intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities that can be deployed in situations where sending personnel would be too dangerous or time-consuming. sUAS can help identify downed pilots or isolated personnel, survey hostile areas, and provide aerial views that greatly enhance situational awareness for ground teams.

Another cutting-edge technology making a significant impact in both the training and operations of the 57 RQS is the Thermal Imagers. This thermal imaging system provides unmatched situational awareness, enabling operators to detect heat signatures in both day and night operations, even in low-visibility environments such as smoke, fog, or complete darkness.

However, with these complex operational demands come budgetary constraints. Financial managers must strike a balance between the immediate needs and long-term fiscal sustainability, and a balance between innovation and financial management. Overcoming the challenges of prioritizing requirements, finding alternative sources of funding, and integrating these new requirements into the budget without diverting funds from other critical needs clearly illustrates how the Resource Advisor, together with the 57 RQS Leadership and 31 CPTS, help the squadron maintain fiscal responsibility.

In summary, financial management plays a vital role in the success of AFSPECWAR operations, particularly for the 57 RQS. Through careful planning, strategic resource allocation, and a focus on both readiness and innovation, financial managers ensure that the squadron remains equipped to tackle its challenging mission requirements. Whether it's funding for advanced training, cutting-edge technology like small unmanned aerial systems, or urgent mission needs, financial managers are key to keeping AFSPECWAR forces prepared for any challenge that comes their way.

About the Author

Ms. Iona Rizzi P. Gregorio is a Resource Advisor for the 57th Rescue Squadron located at Aviano AB, Italy.







Photos: Top- TSgt Daniel Musso of the 57RQS communicates with the Tactical Operations Center, while the rest of the personnel recovery team made up of U.S. Air Force personnel and Swedish Air Force Rangers rest in defensive positions during Nordic Response 24. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Justin Carnahan) Middle- SSgt Zach Raines, a 57th Rescue Squadron pararescueman, scans the horizon during a rescue operation as part of Nordic Response 24 (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Justin Carnahan) Bottom- 57RQS Pararescueman leaps from an HH-60 helicopter into a staged building during a pre-deployment exercise on July 30, 2024, ready to rescue trapped individuals in a high-stakes training scenario. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jenna A. Bond)

Commanding Under Fire – Addressing Customer Complaints



Leaders at every level manage complaints. From our youngest Financial Management Airmen dealing with frustrated personnel in the customer service lobby to senior leaders navigating requests for information from members of Congress, fielding and working inquiries is part of our mission. Command brings a unique set of criticisms, which many squadron Triads are new at navigating. Some of these are functional, such as Inspector General (IG) or Congressionally driven finance inquiries. More concerning for commanders are the criticisms and threats against their G-series authority decisions. This article will review some of these Triad-level issues, provide methods to navigate the criticisms, and highlight lessons learned from dealing with them.

Functional IG and Congressional Inquiries

I'll call it luck that my first squadron commander role at Columbus Air Force Base resulted in zero inquiries pointed our way from the IG or Congressional Representatives. That luck did not continue through my first year at the 86th Comptroller Squadron on Ramstein Air Base. Through my first 12 months, we received 13 IG or Congressional inquiries identifying the squadron as derelict in our duties. Some of these complaints were related to issues we were already working, whereas some came out of nowhere and/or were years old and needed immediate triage.

In general, especially at larger bases, these finance complaints will occur. Unfortunately, so-called "dorm lawyers" and social media posts will advise personnel to "go nuclear" to seek resolution to their finance issues, circumventing the chain-of-command and more typical resolution avenues. Other personnel misinformed on processes or entitlements will come to this decision themselves.

Command-directed EO, IG, Congressional, and Article 138 Complaints

Criticisms of commander decisions are more concerning to a Triad than the functional inquiries and complaints. Commander decision complaints sometimes begin with members' responses to referral performance briefs or rebuttals to administrative or Article-15 actions. Generally, these complaints are worked and approved by higher levels in the chain of command, up-to the General Courts Martial Convening Authority, or independent third-party functional experts, such as Equal Opportunity (EO), with assistance and information from the Triad and the complainant.



Navigating Criticisms and Lessons Learned

Bottom line, I trust the Air Force processes even though they are not perfect. Processing these inquiries is time consuming, often involves higher level reviews and approvals, and unfortunately, pulls significant bandwidth from the primary mission. However, they are a legal avenue for service members to utilize. When the processes and factfinding show financial or CC adherence to Congressional Law, DoD Instructions, and Department of Air Force regulations, the complaints are dismissed, and the Triads can refocus on mission execution. Leaders should consider the following when navigating these functional and command-directed complaints.

#1 Utilize Base Resources

Commanders have a litany of resources and expertise at their fingertips. Just within the Wing Staff, Judge Advocate attorneys and paralegals in Military Justice and Contract/ Fiscal Law as well as EO, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, and the IG personnel are a quick phone call away. These experts provide process oversight and experience with these issues and, in some cases, can redirect inquiries, such as an IG assist, mostly negating the complaint upfront and allowing the Triad to work the issue in a more typical fashion.

#2 Seek Mentorship Input

I am lucky to be in a wing with two 6F O-6 group commanders and mentors as well as being co-located with a MAJCOM staff full of financial management (FM) leaders. These individuals have helped me navigate some of these complaints and provide an outside perspective. I cannot thank Colonel Charles Barkhurst, Colonel Jim Cunningham, and Colonel Chris Boyd, enough for their advice and guidance as well as being a sounding board for my own grumbles. >

Commanding Under Fire – Addressing Customer Complaints (cont.)



#3 Get it in Writing

Unfortunately, verbal communication does not have a paper trail and can easily be misconstrued, or your words twisted or falsified. If you do find yourself in an uncomfortable conversation, hopefully you invited a third party, preferably a Senior Enlisted Leader (SEL), First Shirt, or FM leader. If not, write a short Memorandum for Record and digitally sign it to capture your perspective of the conversation near the time it occurred.

#4 Supervisor Accountability is Key

Properly engaged front-line supervision combined with necessary accountability at the lowest levels can prevent small issues from becoming service dress meetings with the commander. Conversely, supervisor inaction, or shying away from accountability can embolden bad behavior, which when addressed at higher levels, can lead to IG and Congressional complaints.

#5 Be Consistent in Your Application

Absent without leave (or AWOL) should have very similar repercussions regardless of whether a member is a top performer and knocks-out daily tasks or a member who struggles to properly submit a purchase request. How each member reacts and responds to that repercussion may be different, but a supervisor's or commander's application of the administrative action or punishment should be consistent.

#6 Facts, Not Emotions

Many complaints come with false narratives, inaccurate information, and emotional perspectives. Respondents' focus should stick to the facts, hopefully supported by regulation or guidance, avoid emotional responses, and if possible, provide a point of contact to work follow-on inquiries at the lowest acceptable level.

Conclusion

The above considerations continue to support the 86th Comptroller Squadron Triad with a few of these on-going complaints. If you find yourself with an email notification with a subject of "CONGRESSIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT" or from the IG Complaints Resolution mailbox, take a deep breath, read the complainant's thoughts, and work through the response deliberately. Hopefully fellow commanders and leaders at all levels can take something from these thoughts, add it to their toolkit, and, if necessary, assist with these types of complaints.

About the Author

Lt Col Josh Mann is the Commander of the 86th Comptroller Squadron located at Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

LET YOUR VOICE SOAR: WRITE FOR THE SAF/FM ONLINE NEWSLETTER!

Got a story that could inspire or inform the DAF/FM community? We invite you to submit an article for future newsletters! Whether it's a breakthrough idea, an impactful training, or a behind-the-scenes look at your team's success, we want to hear from you. Share the strategies that have streamlined your workflow, improved efficiency, or made a positive impact. Your insights could enlighten and empower others—let's share the knowledge and grow together!

If you or your organization would like to submit an article for a future issue of the newsletter, please send an email to <u>saf.fmew.workflow@us.af.mil</u> indicating your interest and planned topic.

FROM MANUAL TO MODERN: SkillDAF's Path to a Scalable Cloud Solution



DAF FM Strategic Plan Connections

by MSgt Sam Spaethe, SAF/FM



Today marks the release of what I like to call my "Magnum Opus in-themaking." Seeing the need from the field bubble up time and time again to have a better solution to On-The-Job-Training documentation beyond the temporary Excel-based solution, I knew something could be done. After watching and waiting three

years for us to be properly migrated from Air Force Training Record (AFTR) to MyTraining, I decided to step into the arena and try to develop a solution for us all. After 13 months of effort, I'm happy to announce that Version 1.0 of SkillDAF is now upon us.

An Ambitious Project

While impactful and helpful, my past projects always had a "manageable" scope. Typically, the data required could be pulled from somewhere else, and the user base was always relatively small, maybe 1-2 people per base. After the first two months in the development of SkillDAF, it became clear that this would be a much larger effort than anything I'd ever done before. Ultimately, SkillDAF became a 5-layered Power App, seven separate primary databases, seven Power Automate flows, a Microsoft Form, and an archive. Processes include training task and entry management, data exports, training plan changes, data backups, and an Excel-to-App migration tool. All this just captures the current version, which is certainly not complete!

Today's and Tomorrow's Features

With Version 1.0 of SkillDAF, the core requirements for documenting training exist. Unit Training Managers (UTMs), trainers, and trainees can document training records, sign off on tasks, and upload certificates. Some helpful additions allow trainers to bulk-sign tasks for multiple trainees at once, saving time and tedium clicking through each record multiple times. (Sorry, trainees. You still need to sign each task, one at a time!) UTMs can quickly and easily pull trainees from one unit to another, and trainers can do the same as a request, which the UTM can approve with one click. Basic profile information, such as Unit Type Code (UTC) assignment and Skill Level Date, can be updated and maintained for quick oversight by unit leadership. An experimental feature called Experience was added that has me looking forward to how it's adopted; it's an open-ended place for users to add roles and skills they have experience in, with the hope of implementing improved talent management practices down the road. Finally, UTM access is automated through the FM Locator App. If Senior Enlisted Leaders (SELs) answer the call every 180 days to ensure their unit roster is correct, UTMs and SELs will have elevated access to SkillDAF... it's self-managed!

With the core features in place, we were comfortable rolling the system out now. However, many more features will be added in the coming months. A Career Development Course (CDC) module will add a place to capture CDC results, the MyLearning links, and potentially a crowd-sourced repository of study materials. Power BI rollup reports will allow Units, MAJCOM Leaders, and the Career Field Manager to get a detailed report of how our training is going at all levels, with task-level granularity. That means we'll be able to ask questions like "How many people are signed off on this specific task?" or "Which task seems to be lacking expertise?" Finally, without moving the system into a Secret environment, we hope to capture our readiness across the Air Force as it pertains to training.

SkillDAF Version 1.0 is going to have a lot of technical problems. As much as I'd like to say it will work perfectly on day one, no system ever does. However, since this is a tool made in-house by FMers, there is no formal System Change Request (SCR) process. Bugs can be fixed within the hour, and changes can happen in real-time to help us design a system that, for the first time, works perfectly for us.

About the Author

MSgt Sam Spaethe is the Enlisted Force Development Manager for SAF/FM located at the Pentagon, Washington D.C.

References

SkillDAF System - <u>SkillDAF - Power Apps (appsplatform.us)</u>

User Guide- 919; SkillDAF User Guide v1.docx (dps.mil)

SYSTEMS CORNER

DEAMS Update

DEAMS Functional Management Office

by Mr. Todd Baker, DEAMS Functional Manager

System and Organization Controls Audit

As an Application Service Provider (ASP), the Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management

ACCOUNTING & COMPLIA

System (DEAMS) program undergoes an annual System and Organization Controls (SOC) 1 audit to give our customers assurance that the DEAMS system of internal controls is in place and operating effectively. The DEAMS program's critical customers include the Air Force's General Fund, United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM), United States Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM), and the Defense Health Program (DHP). The SOC 1 audit opinion provides these reporting organizations the control information and transparency their financial statement auditors can rely on to achieve their own audit goals. In a nutshell, a SOC 1 report is an audit that can be leveraged by our customers' financial statement auditors.

Throughout FY24, the DEAMS program underwent a SOC 1 audit by an independent public accountant and again received a "qualified" opinion. This opinion highlights the unwavering dedication and collaborative efforts of the crossfunctional teams from the DEAMS Functional Management Office (FMO), Program Management Office (PMO), and Air Force Accounting Operations Center (AFAOC) who pull together with a "one program/one team" approach.

While the DEAMS' qualified opinion is a significant accomplishment, the journey is far from over. Our priority is to achieve a sustainable, unmodified opinion and continue to expand the audit scope to meet the needs for all users of the DEAMS program.

Agile Development Update

Leading up to Fiscal Year End (FYE), the DEAMS development teams made a strong push to install several system releases with the goal of improving system performance and data security. Most of these releases were installed in August, but the teams were able squeeze in two additional releases early in September. These releases were behind the scenes updates that users will not see as changes when navigating within DEAMS, but they directly supported OBIEE performance enhancements and FYE activities.

The development teams have also been able to resume installing system releases that were developed and tested but not installed while the system was in code freeze for FYE closeout. Two of these releases will include interface functionality for Automated Funds Management (AFM) and the ability to process Treasury Disbursing Office (TDO) grant payments.

Whenever system updates or new functionality is installed, the FMO publishes User Release Notes explaining these system changes to the Release Notes library on the DEAMS Outreach Portal.

Deployment and Training Update

FY25 Deployments

The DEAMS Deployment/Training team has been working hard all FY24 to prepare several agencies to transfer programs into DEAMS. Within this first quarter of FY25, the team began transitioning the Centralized Asset Management (CAM) Flying Hour Program (FHP), Civilian Payroll program for the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center (AFLCMC), and Reimbursable Civilian Pay functionality to support Foreign Military Sales programs.

The team also started the G-Invoicing pilot program with USTRANSCOM to test and refine the processes within DEAMS. Options to support G-Invoicing have been visible in DEAMS since August, however, those options will not be fully operational enterprise-wide until later in FY25. Once the pilot program is deemed to be a success, G-Invoicing functionality will be expanded with user training and detailed instructions on how to provision DEAMS user accounts for G-Invoicing responsibilities via the DD Form 2875-DEAMS. Until then, users outside of the USTRANSCOM pilot are being cautioned not to attempt to create G-Invoicing transactions within DEAMS until they have been provisioned the proper access via a DD 2875 and have been trained on the process. >

SYSTEMS CORNER

Legacy to DEAMS

Legacy to DEAMS (L2D) Implementations have also picked back up after a short pause to focus on FYE activities, with implementations beginning for Space Systems Command and Air Force Acquisition (SAF/AQ). FY24 efforts resulted in more than \$259.8M being removed from Legacy systems. Of that total, \$68.8M transitioned to DEAMS.

DEAMS Miscellaneous Payments

Changes to the AF Miscellaneous Payments Program pertaining to category 'E' and category 'V' invoices were implemented in May 2024. A category 'E' invoice is for an employee/member who expends personal funds, and a category 'V' invoice is for payments to a public or government agency.

This is a reminder that the burn-in period for these changes came to an end on 30 September 2024. Beginning 1 October 2024, all category 'E' and 'V' invoices must only use the Date of Entry of the invoice as the Period of Performance (PoP) in the invoice construct. Defense Finance Accounting Service (DFAS) will void invoices if the PoP date entered reflects when the services were rendered. Also being enforced 1 October 2024 are the dates used with Receive, Accept, Invoice Date, and Date Invoice Received. In these instances, category 'E' invoices must use the Date of Entry of the invoice and category 'V' invoices will use the actual date of the goods/services rendered. For more information and a list of examples, visit the <u>Miscellaneous Payments Process Improvement</u> news page on the DEAMS Outreach Portal.

Integration Team Update

The DEAMS Integration Team is a small group of experts who work with future business partners to make sure they have the blueprint needed to configure their systems when the time comes to interact with DEAMS. They participate in planning events, working groups, and collaborate with other teams on projects such as Identity, Credential, and Access Management (ICAM), Maintenance Repair Overhaul (MRO), Joint Travel Management System (JTMS), and MilMove.

For more information on the topics discussed in this article, please contact the DEAMS Strategic Communications Team at saf.DEAMS.stratcomms@us.af.mil.







SYSTEMS CORNER



Introducing...SAF/FMFO!

by Ms. Jenny Beer, Director, SAF/FMFO

The beginning of a new fiscal year is the perfect time to reflect on how we operate today and posture our organization to be most effective and enduring into the future. As part of a Deputy Assistant Secretary for Financial Operations (SAF/ FMF) reorganization, SAF/FMFC-A Air Force Accounting and Finance Office (AFAFO) and SAF/FMFS Air Force Accounting Operations Center (AFAOC) have joined forces as a NEW organization, SAF/FMFO (Accounting Policy and Operations), effective 1 Oct 2024. This reorganization consolidates Air Force Financial Operations accounting support within a centralized organization, from policy development to implementation and sustainment across the Department of the Air Force (DAF). This merger streamlines access to process owners within a single organization and enhances the customer support already being provided to the commands by increasing the breadth and depth of reach-back support.

SAF/FMFO consists of four divisions covering the scope of work and quality products Air Force FM professionals have come to expect from AFAFO and AFAOC – now in one organization. SAF/FMFO's divisions include Customer Support, led by Mr. Bill Sanders; Field Support, led by Ms. Kim Burnett; Accounting Policy, led by Ms. Mick Hale; and Technical Support, led by SAF/FMFO Deputy, Mr. T.J. Souza.



Customers will still have access to help desk support, Subject Matter Expert (SME) knowledge, Power BI research modules, policy management, monthly user forums, dedicated fiscal year-end closeout support, and so much more. With SAF/FM resources better aligned, we are looking forward to this exciting new venture and strive to deliver on our mission to provide overarching DAF FM accounting policy and customer support to strengthen user proficiency, including continuing education, targeted assistance, systems operation and monitoring, data analytics, internal controls, and strategic communications.

Organizational change is essential in today's ever-transforming business environment and is necessary for maintaining relevance and posterity. Rest assured that our vision will always remain the same – Success through Customer Focus. We here at SAF/FMFO are thrilled to continue supporting the world's greatest airmen and guardians. If you have any questions or feedback, please contact SAF.DEAMS.StratComms@us.af.mil.

FM INCOMING

FY25 has Arrived!

Fiscal Year 2025 is in full swing and off to a great start! As we continue to meet the needs of our nation, let's also continue to build our skill sets, support one another, deliver superior decision support, and remain steadfast in accomplishing our goals.

Check out the video on Facebook to see our fantastic DAF/FM community and how we keep FM fun and mission focused! #OneTeamOneFight



VIDEO ON FACEBOOK HERE!

Join the GPC Expanded Use Webinar: Save Time and Taxpayer Dollars

Would you like to learn how your team can bring back 1.8% of every dollar spent to the American taxpayer while saving hundreds of hours? The Government Purchase Card (GPC) Expanded Use Program offers a simple and efficient solution for federal agencies to manage their procurement needs, reducing administrative costs and increasing accountability. With widespread adoption across various federal agencies, this program has consistently proven effective in streamlining government spending. Don't miss the opportunity to hear from contracting and financial management personnel as they discuss how they brought this capability to NATO's Southern Flank. Offered by the SAF/AQC Field Support Team, join the GPC Expanded Use Webinar to learn how to set up and execute under this alternate authority!

WEBINAR INSTRUCTIONS

The webinar will be presented in DAF365 Microsoft Teams Live. There will be Q&A functionality (called the "Live Chat"). Typically, questions will be answered at the conclusion of the briefing.

Session: Wednesday 6 November 2024 at 10AM EST

Teams Live link

Stay tuned for an email announcement from SAF/FM Workforce Development for more.



Stay up-to-date with the latest in DAF FM on LinkedIn and Facebook! https://www.linkedin.com/company/daffm/ | https://www.facebook.com/USAFComptroller