



# BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

## CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT ANDREW D. "ANDY" SOTAK

CMSgt Andrew D. Sotak is the Commandant at the Chief Leadership Academy, Maxwell Air Force Base - Gunter Annex, Alabama. In this role, he leads a team of 13 highly selective Profession of Arms Instructors charged with cultivating the development of Air Force Chief Master Sergeants across the Air Force enterprise. Chief Sotak entered the Air Force in July 2002 as an Aerospace Propulsion Apprentice. Throughout his career, Chief Sotak has primarily worked Flightline, JEIM, Isochronal, Test-Cell, Test and Evaluation, and Aircraft Production sections. As a maintenance SME he supported multiple weapon systems including the C-5, E-3, E-8, F-16, HH-60, and KC-135 aircraft.

As an Air Advisor dual-hatting as the Contract Officer Representative serving in Iraq, he supported the stand-up and sustainment of the Iraqi Army Aviation Command's MI-171, Attack Bell-407 and Huey-II helicopter maintenance capabilities. Chief Sotak has deployed multiple times in support of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM, IRAQI FREEDOM, NEW DAWN, INHERENT RESOLVE, and FREEDOM'S SENTINEL. Prior to assuming his current position, Chief Sotak served as the Senior Enlisted Leader, 718th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Kadena Air Base, Okinawa Japan. He led 530 active-duty personnel where he was responsible for the combat readiness and sortie generation of 15 KC-135s, nine HH-60s, and two low-density/high-demand E-3 platforms providing theater-wide aerial refueling, combat search and rescue, and direct airborne command and control, with long-range surveillance mission operations ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacific.



## EDUCATION

- 2005 Airman Leadership School, Robins AFB, Ga
- 2010 Aircraft Quality Assurance Inspector Course, Sheppard AFB, Tx
- 2011 Air Advisor Course, United States Air Force Expeditionary Operations School, Fort Dix, Nj
- 2011 MI-17 Helicopter Maintenance Training Vertol Systems Inc., Destin Fl
- 2011 Ground Government Flight Representative, Defense Contract Management Agency, Long Beach, Ca
- 2011 Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education I Correspondence Course
- 2012 Paul W. Airey Non-Commissioned Officer Academy, Tyndall AFB, Fl
- 2014 Associate of Applied Science degree in Aircraft Maintenance Tech, Community College of the Air Force
- 2014 Jet Engine Mishap Investigation Course, Sheppard AFB, Tx
- 2016 United States Air Force Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Maxwell-Gunter Annex, Al
- 2019 Bachelor of Science in Leadership, Trident University International, Cypress, Ca
- 2019 United States Air Force Enlisted Professional Military Education Instructor Course, Maxwell AFB, Al
- 2019 Headquarters Joint Task Force Staff Basic Course, Lemay Center, Maxwell AFB Al
- 2021 Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education II Correspondence Course
- 2021 Contingency War Planners Course, Lemay Center, Maxwell AFB, Al
- 2022 United States Air Force Chief Leadership Course, Maxwell-Gunter Annex, Al
- 2023 United States Air Force Leader Development Course for Squadron Command, Maxwell AFB, Al





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2023 Air Force Personnel Center Squadron Leadership Course, Maxwell AFB, Al

2024 Air Force Strategic Leadership Course, Maxwell AFB, Al

## ASSIGNMENTS OR CAREER CHRONOLOGY

1. Jul 2002–Sep 2002, Trainee, Basic Military Training, 321st Training Squadron, Lackland AFB, Tx
2. Sept 2002–Nov 2002, Aerospace Propulsion Student, 361st Training Squadron, Sheppard AFB, Tx
3. Dec 2002–Sep 2005, Aerospace Propulsion Apprentice 93d/116th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Robins AFB, Ga
4. Oct 2005–Feb 2007, Aerospace Propulsion Journeyman, 19th Maintenance Squadron, Robins AFB, Ga
5. Feb 2007–Feb 2008, Aerospace Propulsion Journeyman, 8th Maintenance Squadron, Kunsan AB, Republic of Korea
6. Feb 2008–May 2010, Aerospace Propulsion Craftsman, 436th Maintenance Squadron, Dover AFB, De
7. May 2010–Dec 2011, Quality Assurance Inspector, 436th Maintenance Group, Dover AFB, De
8. Dec 2011–Aug 2013, Aerospace Propulsion Craftsman, 461st Maintenance Squadron, Robins AFB, Ga
9. Sep 2013–Dec 2014, Propulsion Section Chief, 461st Maintenance Squadron, Robins AFB, Ga
10. Dec 2014–Jan 2015, Programs & Resource Flight NCOIC, 461st Maintenance Group, Robins AFB, Ga
11. Jan 2015–Mar 2017, Propulsion Flight Chief, 461st Maintenance Squadron, Robins AFB, Ga
12. Mar 2017–Aug 2017, Lead Production Superintendent, 461st Maintenance Squadron, Robins AFB Ga
13. Aug 2017–June 2019, Squadron Superintendent, AETC Studies and Analysis Squadron, Randolph AFB Tx
14. Jun 2019–Jul 2020, United States Air Force Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy Instructor, Maxwell AFB Al
15. Jul 2020–Jul 2022, Bravo Sq Superintendent, Air Force Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Maxwell AFB Al
16. Jul 2022–Jun 2023, Aircraft Maintenance Unit Superintendent, 718th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Kadena AB Japan
17. Jun 2023–Jul 2024, Senior Enlisted Leader, 718th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Kadena AB Japan
18. Jul 2024–Feb 2025, Chief Leadership Instructor, Air Force Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Maxwell AFB Al
19. Feb 2025–Present, Chief Leadership Course Commandant, Air Force Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Maxwell AFB Al

## MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters

Air Force Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Force Achievement Medal

## OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

2002 Basic Military Training Honor Graduate

2004 Senior Airman Below the Zone

2007 8th Fighter Wing Maintenance Professional of the Year

2014 461st Maintenance Squadron Lt Gen Leo Marquez Maintenance Technician Award

2016 461st Maintenance Group Lance P. Sijan Leadership Award

2018 461st Air Control Wing Lt Gen Leo Marquez Maintenance Leadership Award

2020 AFSNCOA Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year

2020 Organizational Innovation Acceleration Certification

2021 Air University Team of the Year

2022 AETC Master Instructor Certification

2022 AF Major General Clements McMullen Memorial Daedalian Weapon Systems Maintenance Trophy

2023 Secretary of Defense Phoenix Award

## EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Chief Master Sergeant Mar 1, 2022

(Current as of [June 2025])

