



# BIOGRAPHY



## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

### COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT THOMAS J. SAFER

Chief Master Sergeant Thomas J. Safer is assigned as the Command Chief, 115th Fighter Wing, Truax Field, Madison, Wisconsin. Chief Safer's mission is to serve as the senior advisor to unit commanders on all enlisted matters and to advocate on behalf of the enlisted force. Chief Safer addresses issues with Airmen readiness, training, utilization, morale, professional development and quality of life to ensure a resilient force is ready to meet any mission.

Chief Safer entered the United States Air Force in November 1982 and served in the Aerospace Maintenance career field. He served 4 years on active duty and then 20 years in the United States Air Force Reserves fulfilling various maintenance and leadership positions, eventually attaining the position of Aircraft Maintenance Superintendent. He has participated in Operations DESERT SHIELD, SHINING HOPE, JOINT GUARDIAN and IRAQI FREEDOM. During these operations, Chief Safer planned and executed aircraft maintenance operations ensuring combat ready reliable aircraft were available 24/7 to meet a variety of critical missions. His vision and leadership in Hangar Door Safety, Aircraft Fall Protection and Maintenance Resource Management programs for 22nd Air Force ensured Airmen safety was always a top priority. In 2007, Chief Safer joined the Air National Guard and made significant contributions as the Quality Assurance Superintendent fostering an environment of collaboration, professionalism and compliance. Chief Safer also served as the Maintenance Group Superintendent and Chief's Council President. He assumed his present position in July of 2013.



#### EDUCATION

- 1982 Air Force Basic Military Training
- 1983 Aircraft Maintenance Airframe Powerplant General Course
- 1983 Tactical Aircraft Maintenance Course
- 1985 Noncommissioned Officer Preparatory Course
- 1992 Airlift of Hazardous Materials Course
- 1993 Leadership Development Course
- 1995 Noncommissioned Officer Academy
- 1995 Total Quality Management Course
- 1998 Mediation Training
- 2001 Supervision and Group Performance Course
- 2002 Leadership Essentials Course
- 2002 Equipment Management Course
- 2002 Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy
- 2003 Civilian Personnel Management Course
- 2003 Conflict Management Training
- 2006 Maintenance Production Course
- 2007 Air Force Reserve Chief's Leadership Course
- 2007 Maintenance Resource Management Course
- 2009 Jet Engine Mishap Investigation Course
- 2010 Air Force Emergency Response Operations Course

## **EDUCATION Continued**

2010 Chief Master Sergeant Executive Course  
2012 Contemporary Base Issues Course  
2013 Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education  
2013 Air National Guard Command Chief Course  
2013 Defense Support of Civil Authorities Course Phase 1  
2014 Enterprise Leadership Seminar  
2014 Associate of Applied Science Degree, Aviation Maintenance Technology, Community College of the Air Force

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

1. July 1983 – Jun 1985, T-33 Crew Chief, 87th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, KI Sawyer AFB, MI
2. Jun 1985 – Oct 1986, T-33 Crew Chief, 325th Fighter Wing, Tyndall AFB, FL
3. Oct 1986 – Jun 1997, C-130 Inspection Mechanic, 440th Maintenance Squadron, Milwaukee, WI
4. Jun 1997 – Jul 2001, C-130 Inspection Coordinator, 440th Maintenance Squadron, Milwaukee, WI
5. Jul 2001 – Dec 2005, Maintenance Flight Chief, 440th Maintenance Squadron, Milwaukee, WI
6. Dec 2005 – Jan 2007, Squadron Superintendent, 440th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Milwaukee, WI
7. Jan 2007 – May 2013, Quality Assurance Superintendent, 115th Maintenance Group, Madison, WI
8. May 2013 – Present, Command Chief Master Sergeant, 115th Fighter Wing, Madison, WI

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with two devices  
Air Force Commendation Medal with one device  
Air Force Achievement Medal with four devices  
Meritorious Unit Award with two devices  
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with eight devices and valor device  
Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with seven devices  
National Defense Service Medal with one device  
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal  
Southwest Asia Service Medal with one device  
Kosovo Campaign Medal with one device  
Iraq Campaign Medal with one device  
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal  
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal  
Armed Forces Service Medal  
Air Force Expeditionary Medal with gold border with six devices  
Air Force Longevity Service Award with five devices  
Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 4 "M" devices  
United States Air Force Noncommissioned Officer Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon  
Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon  
Air Force Training Ribbon  
Kuwait Liberation Medal Government of Kuwait

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Air Force Sergeants Association  
Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association  
Enlisted Association of the National Guard  
Air National Guard CCM Alumni Association

## **OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS**

1996 Air Force Reserves PEP promotion to Technical Sergeant  
1998 Lieutenant General Leo Marquez Award  
1999 Air Force Reserves PEP promotion to Master Sergeant  
2001 SNCO of the Year  
2004 Air Force Reserves PEP promotion to Senior Master Sergeant

## **EFFECTIVE DATE OF PROMOTION**

Chief Master Sergeant, 1 Jul 2006

(Current as of Oct 2014)