



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL YVONNE L. MAYS

Colonel Yvonne L. Mays currently serves as the Deputy Adjutant General for New Jersey. She is the principal advisor to the Adjutant General and Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs on all matters concerning military readiness, mobilizations, homeland security, defense support to civil authorities, human resources, logistics, training, and financial management. The duties include the supervision and management of the Department's 3,200 full-time State and Federal employees, and more than 30 armories and associated properties.

Prior to her current assignment, Colonel Mays served as the Director of Staff, New Jersey Air National Guard, where she was the principal advisor to the Adjutant General of the State of New Jersey on all matters concerning the 108th Air Wing, the 177th Fighter Wing, subordinate units and civilian matters pertaining to the New Jersey Air National Guard. Colonel Mays began her National Guard career as the Director of Personnel and Commander of the Mission Support Flight, Atlantic City Air National Guard Base, 177th FW in 1999. In 2003, she went on to be the 177th FW Executive Officer before moving on to become the Deputy Chief of Staff, New Jersey Air National Guard in 2008. In 2009, Colonel Mays was appointed as the Public Affairs Officer for the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. In 2010, she became the first female officer to serve as the Bilateral Affairs Officer to the New Jersey National Guard's State Partner, the Republic of Albania. Prior to commissioning and while serving as an enlisted Airman in the active component, she supported numerous operations such as Operation Just Cause and deployed in support of Operation Desert Storm. Colonel Mays earned her commission from the Palmetto Military Academy, Fort Jackson, South Carolina, in 1999. During her tenure as an officer in the New Jersey Air National Guard, Colonel Mays has supported Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. Most recently she served as the Deputy to the Dual Status Commander and Deputy Joint Task Force Commander supporting New Jersey COVID-19 Response Operations.



EDUCATION

- 1983 Basic Military Training, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas
- 1986 Noncommissioned Officer Prep Course, Altus AFB, Okla.
- 1991 Noncommissioned Officer Course, Charleston AFB, S.C.
- 1992 Bachelor of Arts, Education Curriculum Development, Southern Illinois University
- 1997 Master of Arts, Human Resources/Management, Webster University, Saint Louis, Mo.
- 1999 Officer Candidate School, Palmetto Military Academy, U.S Army, Fort Jackson, S.C.
- 2000 Personnel Officer School, Keesler AFB, Miss.
- 2004 Expeditionary Aerospace Communications Officer Training, Keesler AFB, Miss.
- 2005 Communications Officer School, Keesler AFB, Miss.
- 2006 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2010 Defense Institute of Security Assistance, Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio
- 2011 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2016 Crisis Management Course, Harvard Kennedy School, Boston, Mass.
- 2016 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2019 Duals Status Commander Course, Peterson AFB (North American Aerospace Defense Command), Colo.

- 2019 Joint Task Force Commander Course, Peterson AFB (NORAD), Colo.
- 2019 Safety and Accident Investigation Board, Joint Base Andrews, Md.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. October 1999 – October 2000, Director of Personnel, 177th Fighter Wing, Atlantic City Air National Guard Base, Egg Harbor Township, N.J.
2. October 2000 – May 2003, Commander Mission Support Flight, 177th Fighter Wing, ACANGB, Egg Harbor TWP, N.J.
3. May 2003 – June 2008, Wing Executive Officer, 177th Fighter Wing, ACANGB, Egg Harbor TWP, N.J.
4. June 2008 – September 2009, Deputy Chief of Staff-Air, Joint Force Headquarters, McGuire Air Force Base, N.J.
5. September 2009 – September 2010, State Public Affairs Officer, New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Lawrenceville, N.J.
6. September 2010 – September 2011, Bilateral Affairs Officer, Headquarters, United States European Command, Tirana, Republic of Albania
7. October 2011 – June 2012, State Partnership Program Coordinator, New Jersey National Guard and National Guard Bureau, NJDMAVA, Trenton, N.J.
8. June 2012 – December 2017, Executive Officer to The Adjutant General, NJDMAVA, Lawrenceville, N.J.
9. December 2017 – April 2022, Director of Staff, New Jersey Air National Guard, Joint Force Headquarter – Air, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J.
10. April 2022 – Present, Deputy Adjutant General, NJDMAVA, Lawrenceville, N.J.

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

- Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
- Joint Service Commendation Medal
- Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters
- Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters
- Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters
- Joint Meritorious Unit Award
- Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with three oak leaf clusters
- Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with two oak leaf clusters
- Air Force Good Conduct Medal with two oak leaf clusters
- Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster
- National Defense Service Medal with bronze service star
- Armed Forces Service Medal
- Humanitarian Service Medal
- Air Force Longevity Service with silver oak leaf cluster and three oak leaf clusters
- Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Silver Hourglass
- United States Air Force Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon with oak leaf cluster
- Air Force Training Ribbon with oak leaf cluster

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant	July 31, 1999
First Lieutenant	July 31, 2001
Captain	July 31, 2003
Major	July 31, 2007
Lieutenant Colonel	March 8, 2012
Colonel	April 26, 2018

(Current as of May 2022)