

# THE READINESS REPORT

FOR INDIVIDUAL RESERVISTS

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*The official publication of the  
Headquarters Individual Reservist Readiness and Integration Organization*

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## LEADERSHIP



*Col. Kelli B. Smiley  
Commander*



*Chief Master Sergeant Billie M. Baber  
Group Superintendent*



*Master Sgt. Christopher J. Gracey  
First Sergeant*

## ABOUT HQ RIO

The Headquarters Individual Reservist Readiness and Integration Organization (HQ RIO) is located at Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado. Its mission is to seamlessly integrate wartime-ready Individual Reserve forces to meet Air Force and Combatant Commander requirements.

HQ RIO standardizes the processes for the Individual Reserve program. The IR force is comprised of Individual Mobilization Augmentees (IMAs), who are accountable to the Air Force Reserve Command and assigned to funded, active-component positions, and Participating Individual Ready Reservists (PIRRs), who participate for points towards retirement only. There are more than 2,700 enlisted members and more than 4,500 officers in the IR. IMAs and PIRR support more than 50 major commands, combatant commanders and government agencies.



Watch the "What is the Individual Reserve" video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/r0bMSNnYhUE>.

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### **New Government Travel Cards on the way**

All DoD cardholders will be issued new government travel cards from Citi starting in September. By the end of November, all cardholders should have received their updated travel card. In order to avoid account lock-outs all GTC cardholders must ensure that their home mailing address is current with the travel card vendor, their Defense Travel System (DTS) profile and with their APC.

In accordance with DoDI 5154.3, Volume 4 it is the cardholders responsibility to notify their APC and the travel card vendor of changes in contact information such as a new address, new phone number, email address, name change, or new employer.

### **Orders requests for Oct. 1 - 19 must be approved by Sep. 24**

Individual Reservists must ensure their orders are routed and approved by close of business Sep. 24, 2018 for any duty requested to be performed between Oct. 1, 2018 to Oct. 19, 2018.

Financial systems will be unavailable in early October due to the 2018 fiscal year close-out and the ability to process orders is limited. Members with questions should contact their servicing HQ RIO Detachment to ensure all requirements are met to process their request prior to the Sep. 24 suspense date.

### **Flu shot season is rapidly approaching**

It's time for Individual Reservists to be mindful of the upcoming flu season. Vaccinations can be obtained by either their servicing military treatment facility or a civilian provider. The FluMist is no longer approved. Submit civilian proof of vaccination to your servicing MTF. Members failing to get their flu shots and have their Aerospace Medicine Information Management System (ASIMS) information updated by Jan. 1, 2019, could find themselves in a "no pay, no points" situation in accordance with AFI 36-2254, Vol 1.

### **Green Dot training**

Individual Reservists who are unable to complete the in-person Green Dot training class by Sept. 30, 2018, can complete the training on-line. IRs should coordinate with their active-component supervisor or Unit Reserve Coordinator prior to beginning the on-line course and must watch the entire video. IRs will work with their URC to document completion of training. Access the on-line course [here](#).

### **Air Force to begin OCP transition Oct. 1, 2018**

Just a friendly reminder that starting Oct. 1, 2018, the Operational Camouflage Pattern, or OCP, will be authorized for wear as the Air Force's transition to a single combat uniform begins. The service will fully transition to OCPs by April 1, 2021. For further guidance click [here](#).

## **Career tips for Individual Reservists**

**did  
you  
know?**

Did you know that when making airline reservations DoD Policy states that it is mandatory for travelers to make travel arrangements through an electronic travel system (i.e., DTS) when it is available or, if it is not available, through an available Travel Management Company (TMC) (JTR paragraph 010201-C1).

Any DoD traveler who cannot reach the TMC must contact the AO for assistance. The only time travelers may be authorized to bypass the TMC to make airline reservations is when personal travel to a leave point is combined with the TDY but contact your servicing TMC with specifics for the TDY to obtain official permission to bypass.

## TRICARE and Retirement



When you retire from active duty, your TRICARE plan options will change. As a retiree, you will need to take action to enroll in a TRICARE plan if you want to continue to receive coverage for civilian care. First, update your information in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). The next steps depend on which TRICARE plans you are eligible to use. If eligible, you can reenroll yourself and eligible family members in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select. Depending on the plan you choose, you will pay the single or family enrollment fee. There is no TRICARE Select enrollment fee for Group A retirees. For more information, visit the [TRICARE website](#).

For complete guides on TRICARE programs, visit the [Military.com TRICARE section](#).



*Official Air Force Image: MGen Richard Scobee Bio Photo*

Maj. Gen. Richard Scobee was nominated by President Donald Trump and confirmed by the U.S. Senate for promotion to the rank of Lt. Gen. yesterday.

Official Air Force Image: MGen Richard Scobee Bio Photo  
With this promotion, Scobee will become the Chief of the Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command where he will serve as principal adviser on reserve matters to the Secretary of the Air Force and the Air Force Chief of Staff and assume leadership of nearly

## Scobee continues legacy of service

*HQ Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs*

70,000 Reserve Citizen Airmen including the supervision of all U.S. Air Force Reserve units around the world.

A graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, he joined the Air Force in 1986. He is a command pilot with more than 3,800 flying hours in the F-16 Fighting Falcon, including 248 combat hours. Prior to his current assignment as the deputy commander of Air Force Reserve Command, he was the commander of the Air Force Reserve's 10th Air Force, Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base, Texas. Scobee commanded at the squadron, group and wing levels and held numerous staff positions at the unit, Air Staff and Combatant Command levels.

Scobee continues his legacy of service as the son of retired Lt. Col. Francis Richard Scobee, Air Force aircraft mechanic, test pilot and National Aeronautics and Space Administration astronaut who logged more than 6,500 flying hours and flew 45 types of aircraft. Lt. Col. Scobee was the commander of the Space Shuttle Challenger which suffered a catastrophic booster failure in 1986. For his significant accomplishments, Lt. Col. Scobee was awarded the Congressional Space Medal of Honor and inducted into the Astronaut Hall of Fame.

The Air Force Reserve is committed to building our future leaders and preserving a capable force for the defense of our nation. For more information, contact the Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs Office at 478-327-1748.

## Air Force Senior Leaders announce 2019 Spark Tank Competition

By Staff Sgt. Rusty Frank, Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs



Spark Tank 2019. (U.S. Air Force photo illustration by Air Force)

Enlisted, officer and government employees may now submit their innovative ideas for the 2018 Air Force Spark Tank Competition.

The competition calls for Airmen to pitch their innovative ideas to the Air Force’s senior leaders through the the Idea-Scale Ideation platform at [usaf.ideascale.gov.com](http://usaf.ideascale.gov.com), and will culminate in a showcase of those ideas in Orlando, Florida, early next year at the Air Force Association Air Warfare Symposium.

“We challenge all Airmen to share their best ideas that build upon senior leader priorities to restore readiness, increase the lethality of the force and drive innovation to secure our future,” said Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson.

Submissions must include a one page, single-spaced summary with the names of each team member and completed entry in the AFWERX Ideation platform.

Major Command semi-finalist nominees are due by Nov. 21, 2018. MAJCOMs may set an earlier internal deadline for submissions in order to have time for selection. Semi-finalist submissions will also require a video, no longer than three minutes, approved for public release by the owning unit’s Air Force Public Affairs office. All submissions must be entered into the Air Force Ideation Platform before Nov. 21, however, there is no deadline for commenting and iterating on submitted ideas.

Two winners from each MAJCOM and two wildcard winners will each receive \$2,500 from Airmen Powered by Innovation. Additionally, finalists will receive a funded temporary duty assignment to AFA-Orlando. The Air Force Spark Tank winner will also receive a trophy and the member’s unit will display the Spark Tank championship cup on behalf of the unit until unseated at a future competition.

Select finalists will receive funding and other resources to implement their projects.

Wilson announced the annual Air Force Spark Tank competition in her speech at the 2017 AFA Air, Space and Cyber Conference with a goal to, “unleash the innovative capacity of our Airmen.”

For further background on the original Spark Tank competition and the pitches from last year’s Spark Tank finalists visit [here](#).





### Refer a friend to the Air Force Reserves

The Get1Now Program is a great way to keep the Air Force Reserve strong. Reservists can refer people they believe will make a great addition to the Air Force Reserve. Once a referral is verified as a qualified lead, the Reservist becomes eligible for one of many prizes. Visit the Get1Now website for info on how to refer candidates and to see the various prizes available at [www.Get1Now.us](http://www.Get1Now.us).

## Individual Mobilization Augmentees Support Hurricane Florence Relief

By Master Sgt. Eric Amidon, Headquarters Individual Reservist Readiness and Integration Organization



This enhanced satellite image made available by NOAA shows Hurricane Florence off the eastern coast of the United States at 5:52 p.m. EDT on Wednesday. (NOAA via AP)

Headquarters Readiness and Integration Organization, Detachment 6, deployed 30 Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers to help support the U.S. Northern Command's support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Hurricane Florence relief efforts.

Located at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., USNORTHCOM plans, organizes and executes homeland defense and civil support missions, but has few permanently assigned forces.

The command has forces assigned to support FEMA responds to state requests for relief whenever necessary to execute missions covering domestic disaster relief operations that occur during fires, hurricanes, floods and earthquakes.

The Individual Reservists are U.S. Air Force Reserve officers who are subject matter experts supporting the responding

FEMA regions and their respective services. EPLOs are highly trained in coordinating military assistance to other federal agencies and state governments..

During crisis response operations, these EPLOs help coordinate personnel and asset requirements between FEMA and the Air Force.

“At Det 6 we have been preparing and getting our IRs out the door to assist with Hurricane Florence since 7 Sep.,” said Master Sgt. Kami Luster, Section Chief, Readiness and Integration.

Deployed EPLOs will continue to work in various emergency operations centers after the storms have passed to help assist local communities with their recovery efforts.

### RIO Connect IMA Mobile Wingman App



Official app of HQ RIO

Whether you're on the road TDY or at home, the [RIO Connect IMA Mobile Wingman App](#) is everywhere you are with the information you need to manage your Air Force Reserve career. It is the official mobile app of the Headquarters Individual Reservist Readiness and Integration Organization (HQ RIO) and is designed for Individual Reservists.