February 2014

A Higher Calling...A Higher Standard

Roll Call! As Airmen we step to a higher calling and hold ourselves to the highest standards. We have certain beliefs and truths that strengthen our organization and our nation. At the very heart of this is our Core Values; they are a clear illustration of the price of admission to our Air Force, and the common bond by which we win the fight, strengthen the team, and shape the future.

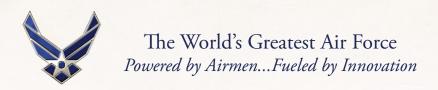
To win the fight, these values must be much more than words...they must guide us and point us to what is universal and unchanging in our profession of arms. Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do are the very fabric that bonds our commitment and dedication to duty, honor, country, fidelity, and competence.

Integrity defines our character. It is our moral compass that directs us always towards the right path. We must never waiver from this basic tenant, nor can we condone or tolerate those that do. The American people have placed a sacred trust in each of us, a trust that has been bolstered by countless Airmen who both came before us and serve alongside us today...we cannot take this for granted or squander such selfless sacrifice.

The *strength of our team* is directly linked to *Service Before Self*. We follow the rules and understand the need to maintain discipline and self-control. To do anything less is to lose faith in the system and place our selves before service to our great nation. The fundamental respect we have for each other as human beings is a constant to comrades in arms.

Our Core Values guide Airmen and "serve as beacons vectoring us back to the path of professional conduct; they allow us to transform a climate of corrosion into a climate of ethical commitment." Our heritage is a testament to years of *Excellence In All We Do*, and this value remains critical as we *shape the future*. We are intrinsically tied to a tradition of honor and a legacy of valor, and our Core Values must pave the way if we are to remain the world's greatest Air Force.

So, why a Roll Call on Core Values? We know the words by heart, and on any given moment 99 percent of our Airmen live up to these high standards...but we must continue to guard against complacency. When one percent of Airmen fail to live according to our values, it reflects poorly on our Air Force as a whole. The nation questions our resolve and our trustworthiness to maintain the most powerful and destructive weapons the world has ever known. We can ill afford to lose this trust. Don't ever apologize for living our Air Force Core Values. Ignoring them is not an option, and there is simply no room in our Air Force for those who do. We own this as Airmen. There's no question we will right the course of the few and stay the course of the many. *Integrity First...Service Before Self...Excellence In All We Do.*



Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.