

**BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY  
OF THE AIR FORCE**

**AIR FORCE POLICY DIRECTIVE 10-27**

**2 JULY 2018**

**Operations**

**CIVIL AIR PATROL**



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This policy directive implements 10 U.S.C. §§ 9441-9448. It provides Air Force policy on the use and support of the Civil Air Patrol, a federally supported, congressionally chartered non-profit corporation that acts as the auxiliary of the Air Force when its services are used by any department or agency in any branch of the Federal Government and when performing designated Air Force-assigned missions and programs. This publication applies to all civilian and regular Air Force personnel, members of the Air Force Reserve Command and Air National Guard units. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility using the AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route AF Forms 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained IAW Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of IAW the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule (RDS) in the Air Force Records Information Management System (AFRIMS).

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

This document has been revised and needs to be reviewed in its entirety. Major changes include Civil Air Patrol-United States Air Force's (CAP-USAF) organizational realignment under Air Combat Command, and clarification of Civil Air Patrol's status as the auxiliary of the Air Force when performing designated Air Force-assigned missions and programs. This directive also delegates Civil Air Patrol mission approval authority and assigns responsibilities for Civil Air Patrol activities to identified Air Force agencies.

## 1. Policy . It is Air Force policy that:

1.1. **Employment Considerations.** Civil Air Patrol participation in Air Force-assigned missions is strictly voluntary. By law, Civil Air Patrol is the auxiliary of the Air Force when its services are used by any department or agency in any branch of the Federal Government. It is Air Force policy that, when performing approved missions as the Air Force Auxiliary, Civil Air Patrol members serve as Airmen and are integrated into the Total Force alongside the Regular Air Force, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve.

1.2. **Air Force-Assigned Mission Approval Authority .** The Air Force authorizes and approves all Civil Air Patrol activities conducted in auxiliary status.

1.3. **Air Force Support for Civil Air Patrol.** The Air Force furnishes equipment, supplies, appropriated funds, personnel, and other resources necessary to enable Civil Air Patrol to accomplish its authorized and assigned missions and programs. Civil Air Patrol activities not eligible for Air Force Auxiliary status are conducted in corporate status. Civil Air Patrol uses federal resources to provide assistance requested by state and local governmental authorities to perform disaster relief missions and other emergency or non-emergency public purpose missions and activities. Civil Air Patrol also may use federally provided resources to:

1.3.1. Encourage and aid U.S. citizens in contributing to the development of aviation and sustainment of air supremacy; and to encourage and develop by example the voluntary contribution of private citizens to the public welfare.

1.3.2. Provide aviation education and training.

1.3.3. Encourage and foster civil aviation in local communities.

1.3.4. Provide an organization of private citizens with adequate facilities to assist in meeting local and national emergencies.

1.3.5. Assist the Department of the Air Force in fulfilling its non-combat programs and missions.

1.4. **Cooperative Agreement between the Air Force and Civil Air Patrol.** The Air Force shall use a Cooperative Agreement, as provided for in 10 U.S.C. §§ 9441-9448, to define the overall working relationship between the Air Force and Civil Air Patrol and to facilitate the transfer of federal resources to Civil Air Patrol. The Cooperative Agreement shall comply with applicable provisions of Title 10, Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations, 2 CFR Part 200, and Air Force instructions that prescribe the form and content of such agreements. At a minimum the Cooperative Agreement will address the programmatic requirements and the responsibilities of each organization involved in accomplishing Civil Air Patrol missions and support.

## 2. Roles and Responsibilities.

2.1. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (SAF/MR) is responsible for providing strategic guidance, direction, and oversight of the Civil Air Patrol, as well as assistance and appointments to the Civil Air Patrol Board of Governors.

2.2. The Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Force for Operations (AF/A3) is responsible for policy on Air Force Auxiliary integration, requirements, and Air Force support to Civil Air Patrol. The AF/A3 authorizes and approves all Civil Air Patrol activities conducted in auxiliary status, to include OCONUS missions. This authority may be redelegated, as appropriate, to Air Force-assigned mission approval authorities.

2.3. Air Combat Command is the principal Major Command responsible for resource advocacy and oversight of Air Force support to Civil Air Patrol.

2.4. Pacific Air Forces is responsible for Air Force Auxiliary operational missions within its Area of Responsibility.

2.5. Air Force Installation Contracting Agency appoints in writing a Grants Officer responsible for executing the Civil Air Patrol Cooperative Agreement. The Grants Officer executes and administers the Civil Air Patrol Cooperative Agreement in consultation with the CAP-USAF Commander.

2.6. Air Force Legal Operations Agency:

2.6.1. Serves as the Air Force office with primary responsibility for adjudicating administrative claims under the Federal Tort Claims Act that arise from Civil Air Patrol's performance of Air Force-assigned missions.

2.6.2. Assists the Department of Justice with litigation arising out of the same.

**3. Civil Air Patrol Board of Governors.** The Civil Air Patrol Board of Governors ensures the effective, efficient, and proper operation of the corporation.

HEATHER A. WILSON  
Secretary of the Air Force

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

10 U.S.C. §§ 9441 - 9448

36 U.S.C. §§ 40301 - 40307

***Prescribed Forms***

None

***Adopted Forms***

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*, 22 September 2009