# 17X Career Field Update

Lt Col Amber Shook

25 Aug 26

- **Mission:** Deliver a resilient, connected warfighting ecosystem and ready Airmen to guarantee global mission success
- **Vision:** Connect ⚡ Enable ⚡ Win
- **Priorities:**
  - Comprehensive focus on delivering relevant capability to the warfighter & strengthening the credibility of the A6 community
    - LOE 1: Theater Deployable Communications
    - LOE 2: Enterprise Communications
    - LOE 3: Service AI Implementation
  - Continue evolution of talent management activities
    - LOE 4: Enlisted Airmen (1D7 & 1B4)
    - LOE 5: Warrant Officers (17W & 17Y)
    - LOE 6: Officers (17D & 17S)
  - Reinforce relationships with key partners and stakeholders

# 17X "Check-In" Topics

- Good News!
- Career Field Manager Role
- What We Value
- Career Field Health
- Current Big Rocks
- Upcoming Milestones & FY27 Outlook
- Q&A

# CONGRATS to our Newest Squadron & Det Command Selects! (pg 1/3)

| GRD | NAME | AFSC | CURRENT MAJCOM | CURRENT UNIT | GAINING LOCATION | GAINING UNIT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| O5 | **AMARAL RUI F** | 17D | HQ USAF | HQ USAF (OL A8X0) | SHAW | 609 AIR COMMS SQ |
| O5 | **ANSWINE SARAH** | 17D | AETC | AIR CMD/STAFF CL | DAVIS-MONTHAN | 612 AIR COMMS SQ |
| O5(s) | **AQUINO JUSTINE P** | 17D | HQ USAF | HQ USAF (OL CNS0) | FT BELVOIR | 260 ENTERPRISE OPS SQ |
| O4 | **BARRETT DOWARD** | 17D | USPACOM | AFELM USPACOM JP | YOKOTA | 373 ISRG (Det 1) |
| O4 | **BEARDEN WILLIAM C** | 17D | ACC | 85 ENG INSTL SQ | ROBINS | 5 COMBAT COMM SPT SQ |
| O5(s) | **BORNEMAN MARKUS** | 17S | AFMC | ***** | JB LACKLAND | 90 CYBER OPERATIONSS |
| O4 | **BOZEMAN BRETT J** | 17D | AFELM | AFELM NORAD JB | SHEPPARD | 82 COMMS SQ |
| O5(s) | **BUTCHER STEVEN M** | 17S | USCYBERCOM | AFELM U.S. CYBER CM | BOLLING | 794 COMMS SQ |
| O5(s) | **CEPIL LUCAS T** | 17S | HQ USAF | HQ USAF (OL A57D) | JBSA LACKLAND | 834 CYBER OPS SQ |
| O4 | **CHAMBLISS JOSHUA** | 17S | PACAF | 747 COMMS SQ | JB PRL HBR-HICKAM | 747 CYBERSPACE SQ |
| O5 | **COOKE JOEL E** | 17D | AFELM | DSCA | RAMSTEIN | 693 INTEL SUPPORT SQ |
| O5 | **CORVIN CHARITO M** | 17D | AETC | SAASS | YOKOTA | 374 COMMS SQ |
| O4 | **DAYHUFF ERIC N** | 17D | AETC | SAASS | SEYMOUR JOHNSON | 4 COMMS SQ |
| O5(s) | **DELANO CHRISTOPHER** | 17D | USSOUTHCOM | AFELM SOUTHCOM HQ | BARKSDALE | 2 COMMS SQ |
| O5 | **DIMUZIO ANTHONY** | 17D | AETC | 47 COMMS SQ | WRIGHT PATTERSON | 88 COMMS SQ |
| O4 | **DOAN TONEY** | 17D | ACC | 25 ATTACK WG | CREECH | 432 COMMS SQ |
| O4 | **DOBSON TAMARA N** | 17D | AETC | AIR WAR COLLEGE CL | JB LANGLEY-EUSTIS | 363 INTEL SUPPORT SQ |
| O4 | **FLOWERS CHRISTOPHER** | 17D | AFGSC | AF GLOBAL STRIKE CM | ALTUS | 97 COMMS SQ |
| O4 | **GARZA JORDAN A** | 17D | PACAF | 35 COMMS SQ | NELLIS | 53 COMPUTER SYS SQ |
| O5(s) | **GAZOLA ERIC S** | 17S | AFELM | AFELM JCS MCA JO | FT GEORGE MEADE | 315 CYBER OPS SQ |
| O5(s) | **GENDREAU BRIAN P** | 17D | AETC | AIR WAR COLLEGE CL | EGLIN | 96 COMMS SQ |

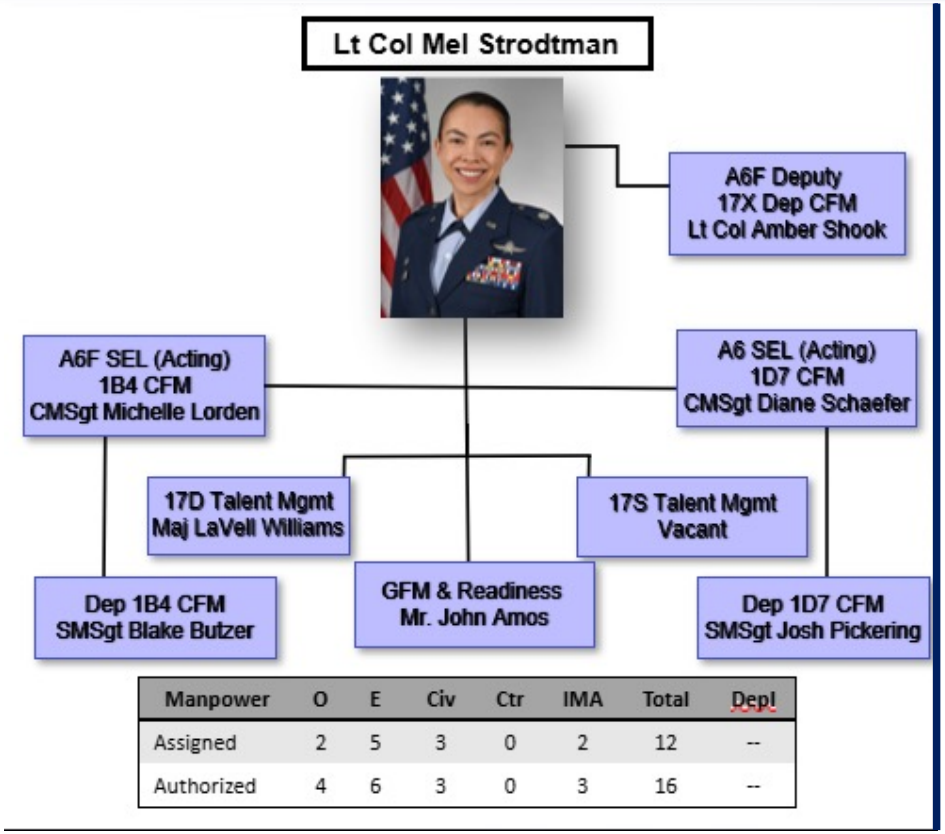
# CONGRATS to our Newest Squadron & Det Command Selects! (pg 2/3)

| GRD | NAME | AFSC | CURR MAJCOM | CURRENT UNIT | GAINING LOCATION | GAINING UNIT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| O5(s) | **GHAHARY JONATHAN S** | 17S | USCYBERCOM | AFELM U.S. CYBER CM | JB PRL HBR-HICKAM | 690 CYBER OPS SQ |
| O5 | **GOMEZ ISAIAH T** | 17D | USPACOM | AFELM USPACOM JP | CREECH | 25 AIRCRFT COMM MAINT SQ |
| O5(s) | **GONZALEZ KIRA** | 17D | USSOCOM | AFELM SOCOM JSOC JX | LAKENHEATH | 48 COMMS SQ |
| O4 | **HAM ESTRELLA C** | 17D | USSOCOM | SPECIAL OPERATIONS JX | ROBINS | 52 COMBAT COMM SQ |
| O5 | **HOWARD REGENALD E** | 17D | USCYBERCOM | AFELM US CYBER CM | KADENA | 18 COMMUNICATIONS SQ |
| O5 | **IVERSEN KURT D** | 17D | AETC | 2 AIR FORCE AF | KEESLER | 81 COMMS SQ |
| O4 | **KAMATH VENKATESH V** | 17D | AETC | 21 STUDENT SQ | LAUGHLIN | 47 COMMS SQ |
| O5 | **KENAN KATHRYN L** | 17D | AFDW | 5 INTEL SUPPORT SQ | BOLLING | 5 INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT SQ |
| O5(s) | **KOGER DAVID PAUL** | 17D | DEF TR AGY | DEF THR REDUCT AGY | CROUGHTON | 422 COMMS SQ |
| O5 | **KOPP CHRISTOPHER A** | 17D | AFDW | 5 INTEL SUPPORT SQ | JBSA LACKLAND | 502 COMMS SQ |
| O5 | **LEE LADONNA DENISE** | 17D | USSPACECOM | AFELM USSPACECOM JA | OSAN | 694 INTEL SUPPORT SQ |
| O5 | **LEIGH BROOKE T** | 17S | AFGSC | AF GLOBAL STRIKE CM | PETERSON | 561 NETWORK OPS SQ |
| O4(s) | **LITTLE BRANDON L** | 17D | USSOCOM | AFELM SOCOM JSOC JX | KUNSAN | 8 COMMS SQ |
| O5(s) | **MALM ALEX J** | 17D | ACC | 726 AIR CONTROL SQ | ROBINS | 461 AIR CON/NETWORKS SQ |
| O5 | **MAYO ROBERT LEE** | 17S | ACC | AIR COMBAT CM | NELLIS | 57 INFO AGGRESSOR SQ |
| O4 | **MCWHIRTER NATHAN** | 17D | AFELM | AFELM DISA/WHCA AG | KEESLER | 85 ENG INSTL SQ |
| O4 | **MERRITT RAUN J** | 17D | AETC | 21 STUDENT SQ | FAIRCHILD | 92 COMMS SQ |
| O5(s) | **MESINA MICHELLE J** | 17D | ACC | 325 COMMS SQ | TYNDALL | 325 COMMS SQ |
| O4 | **MOORE JUSTIN ROBERT** | 17S | AETC | SAASS | MAXWELL GUNTER | 26 NETWORK OPS SQ |
| O5 | **PALUCH SARAJO** | 17D | USCENTCOM | AFELM CENTCOM | OFFUTT | 55 COMMS SQ |
| O4 | **PATCHOSKI PHILIP S** | 17D | AFELM | AFELM US ARMY-CGSC | EIELSON | 354 COMMS SQ |

# CONGRATS to our Newest Squadron & Det Command Selects! (pg 3/3)

| GRD | NAME | AFSC | CURR MAJCOM | CURRENT UNIT | GAINING LOCATION | GAINING UNIT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| O5(s) | **PERRYMAN MICAH R** | 17D | USSOCOM | SPECIAL OPS JX | MISAWA | 35 COMMS SQ |
| O5 | **PHAM ANHMINH** | 17D | HQ USAF | HQ USAFS (OL A) | TINKER | 552 AIR CON/NETWORKS SQ |
| O4 | **PITTMAN DANIEL K** | 17D | AETC | AIR WAR COLLEGE CL | MACDILL | JCSE |
| O5 | **POLCYN SCOTT M** | 17S | ACC | 16 AIR FORCE AF | JBSA LACKLAND | 92 CYBER OPS SQ |
| O4 | **POOLE JONATHAN M** | 17S | AETC | AIR CMD/STAFF CL | MAXWELL | 42 COMMS SQ |
| O5 | **SCHAAF ANDREA J** | 17D | HQ USAF | HQ USAF (OL A57D) | MCCONNELL | 22 COMMS |
| O5 | **SCHEGLOV TWIN M.** | 17D | AETC | AIR EDUC AND TRNG | JBSA RANDOLPH | AETC COMPUTER SYS SQ |
| O5 | **STILES TYLER R** | 17S | HQ AFPC | HQ AFPC (OL DPM) | JBSA LACKLAND | 390 CYBER OPS SQ |
| O5(s) | **STUBER MICHAEL P** | 17S | PACAF | 611 AIR OPS CE | JB PRL HBR-HICKAM | 792 INTEL SUPPORT SQ |
| O5 | **STYRON ALTON N** | 17D | AFELM | AFELM NDU JO | FT GEORGE MEADE | 707 COMMS SQ |
| O4 | **TAYLOR ADRIAN S** | 17D | AETC | AIR CMD/STAFF CL | CAMP HUMPHREYS | 694 INTEL SUPPORT SQ (DET 1) |
| O5 | **VU TUAN A** | 17D | USEUCOM | AFELM EUCOM JE | PATRICK | 709 CYBERSPACE SQ |
| O4 | **WEISER, MATTHEW C** | 17D | AETC | 21 STUDENT SQ | KEESLER | 39 INFO OPNS SQ (Det 2) |
| O5(s) | **WHYLIE JORDAN A** | 17D | ACC | AIR COMBAT CM | JBER | 611 AIR COMMS SQ |
| O5(s) | **WIEMERS BENJAMIN J** | 17S | HQ USAF | HQ USAF | NELLIS | 32 WEAPONS SQ |

# A6F – Cyber Force Development Directorate




| Manpower | O | E | Civ | Ctr | IMA | Total | Depl |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Assigned | 2 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 12 | -- |
| Authorized | 4 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 16 | -- |

- **2025-2026: AF/A6 heavy transition period**
- **FY27 Focus:** Elevate Talent Management Strategy with increased emphasis on return-on-investment and accountability for optimization of force development to achieve operational success.

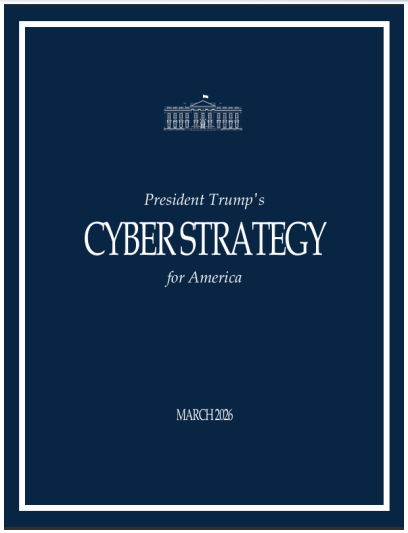
# What is the role of the Career Field Management Team?

- **Career Field Oversight:** The CFM sets the strategic direction for their AFSC, ensuring the career field is well-trained, properly resourced, and aligned with Air Force mission needs.
- **Training and Standards:** Oversees training programs, skill level progression, and certification requirements for personnel in their career field.
- **Personnel Management:** Influences career progression, assignment considerations, and the release of personnel to special duties.
- **Resource Allocation:** Works across staffs to manage manpower and ensure adequate coverage across bases and units



# What We Value

- **Technically Competent Leaders:** Hands-on expertise to lead from the front, navigate complex architectures, and provide authoritative counsel
- **Acquisition and Resource Strategists:** Mastery of the resourcing cycle, translating tech debt into operational risk, and operating governance as a maneuver space
- **Regional and Functional Experts:** Cultivate deep understanding of geopolitical landscapes and specialized missions like NC3 or SOF, to underwrite deterrence and project power globally
- **Master Planners and Campaigners:** Visionaries fluent in joint planning to seamlessly synchronize cyber and communications into broader campaigns




**Cyber Strategy Pillar #6: Build Talent and Capacity**

**America's cyber workforce [is] a strategic asset that "protects the American people, the homeland, and the American way of life." It is an asset worthy of great investment and essential to our nation's economic prosperity and security.**

CUI

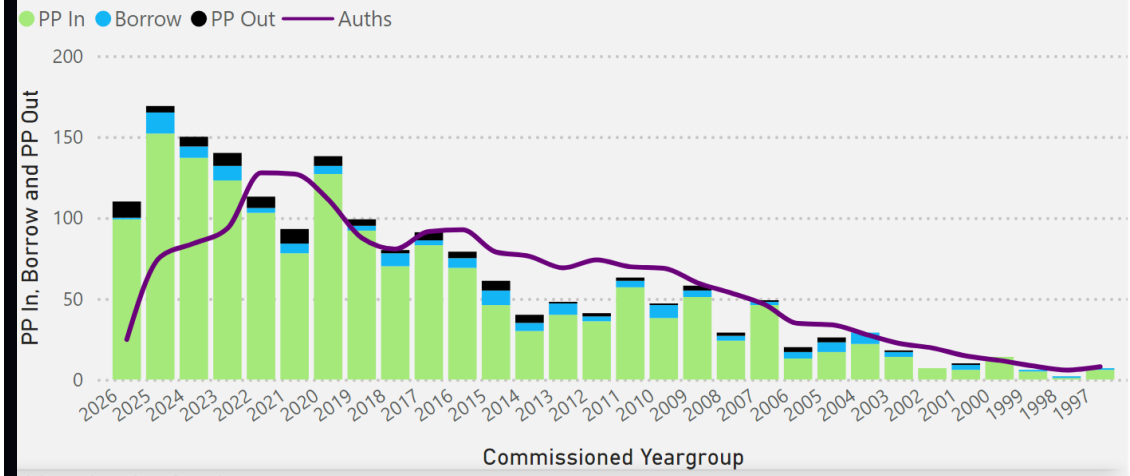
# USAF Officer Career Field Health Charts

Data as of EOM Jul 2026

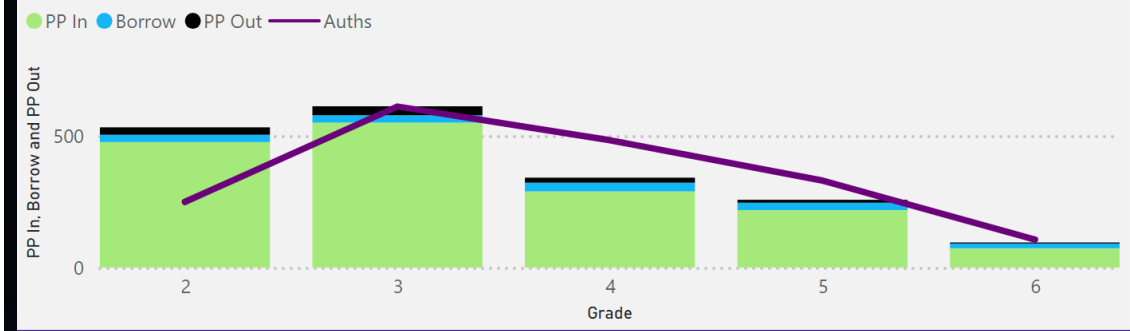
AFSC

17D

## Manning by CYOS



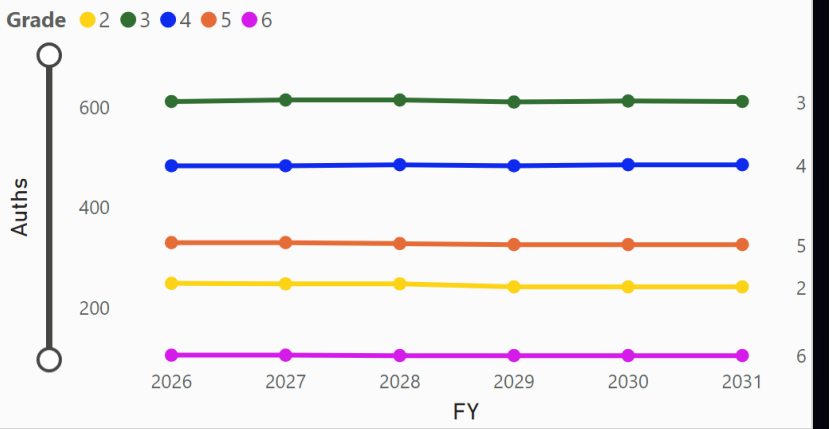

## Manning by Grade




**97.9%**
Total Manning

**94.2%**
Current Retention

## Auths over the FYDP




| Grade | PP In | PP Out | Borrow | Manning | Auths | % Manning |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 476 | 28 | 28 | 504 | 249 | 202% |
| 3 | 550 | 34 | 28 | 578 | 611 | 95% |
| 4 | 289 | 19 | 33 | 322 | 483 | 67% |
| 5 | 218 | 11 | 28 | 246 | 330 | 75% |
| 6 | 73 | 4 | 18 | 91 | 106 | 86% |
| **Total** | **1,606** | **96** | **135** | **1,741** | **1,779** | **98%** |

CUI

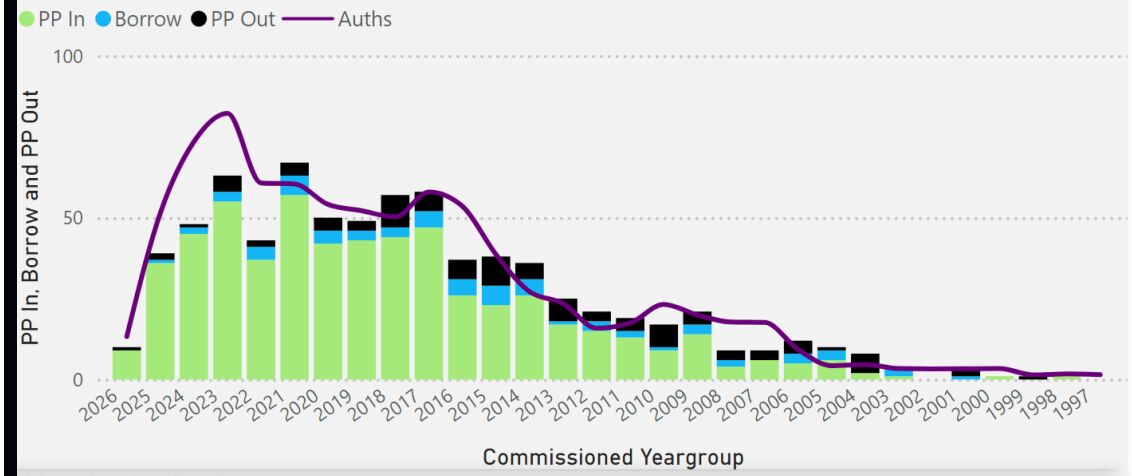
# USAF Officer Career Field Health Charts

Data as of EOM Jul 2026

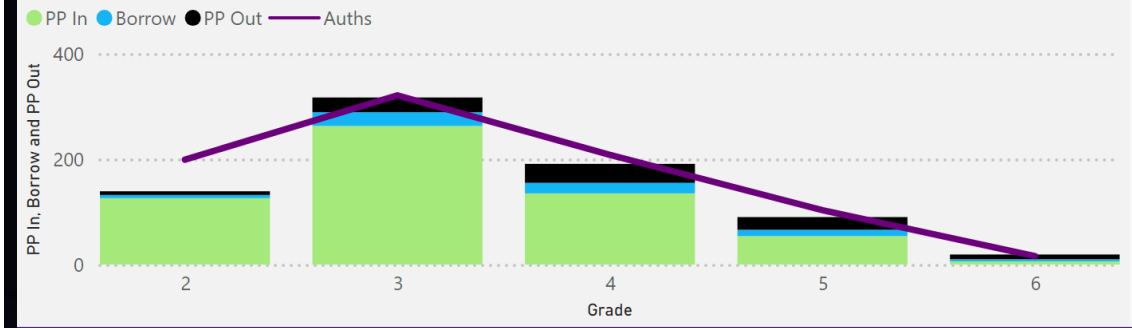
AFSC

17S

## Manning by CYOS



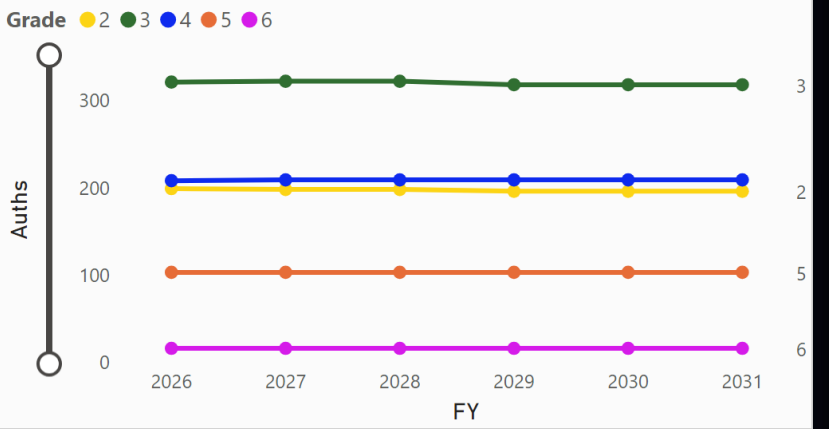

## Manning by Grade




**77.0%**
Total Manning

**92.2%**
Current Retention

## Auths over the FYDP




| Grade | PP In | PP Out | Borrow | Manning | Auths | % Manning |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 126 | 7 | 6 | 132 | 199 | 66% |
| 3 | 263 | 28 | 26 | 289 | 321 | 90% |
| 4 | 135 | 36 | 20 | 155 | 208 | 75% |
| 5 | 54 | 24 | 12 | 66 | 103 | 64% |
| 6 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 10 | 16 | 63% |
| **Total** | **584** | **104** | **68** | **652** | **847** | **77%** |

# Current Big Rocks

- **CYBERCOM 2.0**
  - Coordinate closely w/ DAF PCA, OSW PCA, and AFCYBER and participate in many sprints and WGs
  - C2.0 efforts require 100% fill for Cyber Operations Force (COF) Groups 1 & 2
  - CMF and DCWF Work Roles and assessments to track eligible candidates
  - Cyber Mastery Incentive Pay vs Cyber Assignment Incentive Pay
- **Warrant Officer Program**
  - Transitioned into sustainment phase and placed ownership with permanent portfolio managers
  - Crafted initial utilization guidance
  - Coordinating full list of WO Requirements
    - UTC and unit structure review anticipated for FY27
    - No Free Chicken: Offsets Required
- **DCWF/DoD 8140**
- **Talent Management Maturation**
  - Development team (DT) Champions Program
  - Statement of Intent (SOI) Completion

# Upcoming Milestones & FY27 Outlook

- Special Experience/Program Tracking
- TMF Updates anticipated NLT EOCY26
- Requirements Validation:
  - Warrant Officer
  - CNODP
  - AAD/SPEED
- WO Selection Board 7-11 Sep 26
- C2.0: Enumeration of COF 2, 3, and 7

- ➢ Elevated Talent Management program and methodologies assessment ("ROI Check")
- ➢ Force Design in alignment with operational realities
- ➢ Prepare 17X careers for continued success into senior ranks

***Are we tuning for efficiency or tuning for warfighting?***
*– Brig Gen Lauren Courchaine*

# QUESTIONS?




USAF_17X_CAREER_FIELD_MANAGER@US.AF.MIL
USAF_17WY_WO_Career_Field_Manager@us.af.mil

**MS TEAMS: USAF/USSF 17X CYBER OFFICERS CAREER FIELD INFORMATION CHANNEL**