



AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION DIVISION 1



3 March 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS/RESOURCE ADVISORS/TRAINING MGRS

FROM: AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION, DIVISION 1

SUBJECT: Support for and Attendance at the Annual Division 1 Conference


1. The Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) is a Congressionally chartered, non-partisan, Veterans' Service Organization and is recognized by the DOD as a National Military Association (NMA). Every year, AFSA Division 1 hosts its annual Conference, Professional Development Symposium, and Reunion. As the title suggests, every attempt is made to insert as much professional development (PD) into the program, as is possible.
2. Not by chance, PD accounts for at least 75% of the time dedicated to the business effort. Last year, this included a Senior Leader/Command Chief's Panel with one installation and three center Command Chiefs, as well as our keynote speaker, Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff #3 (R) John Wayne Troxell. As a matter of fact, there are a limited number of instances where our professionals in their Profession of Arms may hear directly from those engaged at these levels of the enterprise. Simply put, this is the very opportunity for our Uniformed members to seek and gain this type of growth!
3. Those areas which may not be considered as strictly PD, are most definitely intended to encourage personal development. These offerings do not yet provide approved Continuing Education Units (CEU); however, we strive to achieve this designation/approval in the future. We endeavor to aid in providing our military members with the chance to obtain credits toward a possible degree and to make the unit approval process infinitely easier, knowing the inherent difficulty in deciding or justifying who receives a coveted TDY slot.
4. Rest assured, your Airman, Guardian, sister-service member, veteran, retiree, up-and-coming civilian leader, or family member will return to your unit with a new perspective on leadership and teamwork. Furthermore, this conference is a bridge between the chapter/base events and our International Conference, being held this year in Dallas, 4-10 August.
5. To ensure maximum accessibility, please leverage the references noted herein, which are not all-inclusive but are shared as a starting point. The Joint Travel Regulation (JTR), 1 Feb 23 identifies "Conferences for Training" outside of the Permanent Duty Station (PDS) in 0321 and 032101 on page 3B-1 as opposed to "Conferences Not for Training" in 0302 and 030201 on page 3A-1. Additionally, 032602 on page 3B-11 speaks to civilian training.
6. Further, 030901 on pages 3A-18 – 19 reference travel of member and a potential guest for award presentation. However, award winners are not normally identified ahead of time,

but rather at one of the two dedicated ceremonies. Winners from our conference then go on to compete against six other divisions at the International Conference, the pinnacle of the award process. A massive achievement, it is here, that these award winners are recognized on the same stage where our very own AFSA Pitsenbarger Award recipient is honored.

7. Lastly, the above-mentioned NMA reference can also be found in DoDI 5410.19 V2 and in successive updates of the DoD MFR that establish the same annual designation. Also available, upon request, is 29-page packet labeled “Interaction with Military Associations” that not only elaborates on NMAs, but also speaks about Non-Federal Entities. Signed also by CSAF Mark Welsh, much of the paper is originated by former SECAF Deborah James.

8. Commanders, Directors, First Sergeants, and supervisors are all highly encouraged to support their award nominees. We invite you to join us, not only at the formal functions, but also by attending the division conference too. This event is all ranks, all services, all components, veterans, retirees, as well as the family members of all the aforementioned.

9. Please direct additional requests for information, supporting references, questions, or concerns to me by email at: dmccoy@hqafsa.org or by cell phone at: 808-927-3386. I am delighted to assist you with support and to ensure we enable our professionals to join us!


DAVID I. MCCOY, SMSgt, USAF (Ret)
President