

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

**AIR FORCE MISSION DIRECTIVE 44**

**23 DECEMBER 2019**

**Safety**

**AIR FORCE SAFETY CENTER**



**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

---

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Publications and forms are available for downloading or ordering on the e-Publishing website at [www.e-Publishing.af.mil](http://www.e-Publishing.af.mil).

**RELEASABILITY:** There are no releasability restrictions on this publication.

---

OPR: AF/SEI

Certified by: AF/SE  
(Col Lawrence A. Nixon)

Supersedes: AFMD 44, 4 October 2011

Pages: 3

---

This Directive states the mission, defines the command structure, and establishes the responsibilities of the Air Force Safety Center (AFSEC), a field operating agency (FOA). Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with AFMAN 33-363, Management of Records, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

This document is substantially revised and must be completely reviewed. This document is revised to reflect the current organization designation and requirements.

**1. Mission.** The AFSEC provides subject matter expertise to support the Air Force Chief of Safety in executing responsibilities under 10 United States Code (USC) § 9033 in conducting proactive aviation, space, weapons (conventional and nuclear), and emerging technology safety programs as directed by DoDI 6055.01, DoDI 6055.07, and DoDI 6055.19, and occupational health and safety programs as directed by DoDI 6055.01, 5 USC § 7902, 29 USC § 668, and a nuclear surety program as directed by DoDD 3150.02. The overarching goals of these programs are to safeguard Airmen by creating a duty environment where hazards are known and effectively mitigated and to preserve Air Force resources through an active mishap prevention program. AFSEC achieves these goals via activities incorporated in the Air Force Safety Management System, which encourages safe practices, eliminates mission hindering hazards, provides AF-level training and education, and advances the safety culture in the Air Force.

AFSEC participates in the active exchange of information and ideas with DoD, federal agencies, industry, and international partner nations to enhance mishap prevention programs.

**2. Command.** The AFSEC Commander, dual-hatted as the Air Force Chief of Safety, reports directly to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force and is responsible for providing oversight to Air Force Safety programs, AFSEC programs, personnel, manpower, budget, contract administration, knowledge operations, facilities, and resources at large.

**3. Responsibilities .**

3.1. Provides Office of Primary Responsibility and technical subject matter expertise to establish policy and develop, maintain, and provide interpretation of AF-level guidance with regard to safety programs, mishap prevention, mishap investigation, and nuclear surety (e.g., 91-series Air Force Publications).

3.2. Provides policy and guidance to organize safety activities and mishap prevention programs within the AFSMS construct and associated pillars of Policy and Leadership, Risk Management, Assurance, and Promotion, Training, and Education.

3.3. Develops and manages AF-level proactive safety programs to encourage safe practices and aid in mishap prevention.

3.4. Provides content management authority with regard to safety in Air Force Risk Management and Inspector General guidance.

3.5. Develops and maintains Air Force guidance governing Nuclear Surety Program management.

3.6. Provides Nuclear Safety Certification through independent analysis for all nuclear weapon system-related hardware, software, facilities, and equipment.

3.7. Provides certification of nonnuclear munitions and explosives in the AF inventory.

3.8. Provides Air Force guidance and framework to support operational risk acceptance decisions as required by the Defense Explosive Safety Board.

3.9. Develops and manages Air Force Occupational Safety and Health guidance and standards.

3.10. Ensures Air Force compliance in accordance with public law, national consensus standards (as defined in 29 USC § 52), and DoD policy.

3.10.1. Monitors Air Force Safety programs for compliance in accordance with Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, 29 U.S.C. § 651-678.

3.10.2. Conducts independent evaluations for Commanders of MAJCOM/DRU/FOA safety, mishap prevention, and nuclear surety programs to ensure adherence with Air Force guidance.

3.11. Develops, maintains and supervises the use of the Air Force Safety Automated System (AFSAS), an information management system supporting hazard and mishap notification, analysis, report documentation, tracking, and trending, as well as the development of annual and mishap reports as required by AFD 91-2, DoDI and 5 USC § 7902.

- 3.12. Develops, manages, and conducts education and training to improve subject matter expertise in aviation, occupational, space, system and conventional/nuclear weapons safety programs, as well as the disciplines of human factors mishap investigation/assessment and Safety Privilege, to enhance safety knowledge, skills, and abilities, and preserve combat readiness.
- 3.13. Enhances world-wide current and future mishap prevention through the enabling of partnership building and collaboration with allied nations as required by AFI 16-105\_IP, Joint Security Cooperation Education and Training.
- 3.14. Provides AF-level review of mishap investigation (and applicable hazard) reports, tracks action regarding mishap recommendations, and provides trending analyses on Air Force mishaps using the AFSEC-administered AFSAS.
- 3.15. Protects and controls the use of DoD Safety Privilege information.
- 3.16. Maintains and manages access to safety investigation reports to include but not limited to, Freedom of Information Act 5 USC § 552-552a. and litigation requests pursuant to Federal law and Air Force record keeping guidance.
- 3.17. Develops communication plans and products to promote risk management and effect a positive safety culture. Builds public trust and support through timely release of accurate, relevant information.
- 3.18. Implements Air Force responsibilities for the DoD Interagency Nuclear Safety Review Panel.
- 3.19. Provides representation to safety boards, external to the Air Force as identified by the Chief of Safety.
- 3.20. Administers the Air Force Safety Awards Program.

JOHN T. RAUCH  
Major General, USAF  
Chief of Safety