BIOGRAPHY

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

COLONEL THEODORE T. RICHARD

Col Ted Richard serves as the Staff Judge Advocate for the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. In this role, he is the principal legal advisor to the Academy's Superintendent, Commandant of Cadets, Dean of Faculty, Director of Athletics, headquarters staff, the USAFA Preparatory School, 10th Air Base Wing and all subordinate organizations. He also provides leadership for the men and women of the USAFA legal office.

Col Richard is a native of Madison, Wisconsin, where he spent over 10 years in the Wisconsin Army National Guard as helicopter mechanic and crew chief. Prior to law school, Col Richard was a private detective in Wisconsin and Illinois where he investigated civil and criminal cases for attorneys in private practice. While in law school, Col Richard completed internships with the Brown County Wisconsin District Attorney's Office and Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Jon Wilcox. He was commissioned as a first lieutenant upon selection for direct appointment to the United States Air Force in September 2001.

EDUCATION

1996 Bachelor of Science, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, & English, University of Wisconsin at Madison (with academic distinction)
2001 Juris Doctor, University of Wisconsin at Madison (*cum laude*)
2005 Squadron Officer School (correspondence)
2006 Squadron Officer School (in residence), Maxwell AFB, AL
2009 LL.M. (Government Procurement), George Washington University, Washington DC (with highest honors and winner of the Patricia A. Tobin Award for Excellence in Government Procurement Law)
2010 Air Command and Staff College (correspondence)
2015 Air War College (correspondence)

ASSIGNMENTS

1. December 1990 – August 2001, OH-58 mechanic, UH-60 mechanic, UH-60 crew chief, 1/147th CAB, Madison, WI (Wisconsin Army National Guard)
2. December 2001 – July 2004, Assistant Staff Judge Advocate (Chief of Claims, Legal Assistance, Adverse Actions, and Military Justice), 319th Air Refueling Wing, Grand Forks AFB, ND
3. July 2004 – October 2006, Assistant Staff Judge Advocate (Chief of Civil Law and Military Justice), 15th Airlift Wing, Hickam AFB, HI
   (May 2005 – September 2005, Staff Judge Advocate, 380th Air Expeditionary Wing, CENTCOM)
4. October 2006 – August 2007, Area Defense Counsel, Hickam AFB, HI
5. August 2007 – August 2008, Litigation attorney, Labor Law Field Support Center, AFLOA/JACL, Arlington, VA
6. August 2008 – June 2009, LL.M. student, George Washington University, Washington D.C.
7. June 2009 – May 2010, Trial attorney, Commercial Litigation Division, AFLOA/JAQ, Arlington, VA

8. May 2010 – July 2011, Executive Officer to the Director of the Commercial Law and Litigation Directorate, AFLOA/JAQ, Arlington, VA
(December 2010 – June 2011, Chief of Contract and Fiscal Law, CJTF-101, Bagram, Afghanistan)
9. July 2011 – July 2014, Staff Judge Advocate, 71 FTW, Vance AFB, OK
10. July 2014 – August 2015, Chief of Operations Law, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, NE
11. September 2015 – July 2017, Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, NE
12. July 2017 – June 2019, Legal Advisor, 603 AOC, and Operations Law Attorney, U.S Air Forces in Europe and U.S. Air Forces Africa, Ramstein AB, Germany
13. June 2019 – July 2020, Legal Advisor, CAOC (609 AOC), USAFCENT, Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar
14. July 2020 – December 2021, Staff Judge Advocate, 86th Airlift Wing, Ramstein AB, Germany
15. January 2022 – July 2025, Staff Judge Advocate, Space Operations Command, Peterson SFB, CO
16. July 2025 – Present, Staff Judge Advocate, United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit
Defense Meritorious Service Medal w/2 oak leaf clusters
Meritorious Service Medal w/3 oak leaf clusters
Air Force Commendation Medal w/2 oak leaf clusters
Army Commendation Medal

2011 U.S. Army Combat Action Badge
2011 ABA Standing Committee on Armed Forces Law Keithe E. Nelson Distinguished Service Award
2011 and 2012 AETC Outstanding Active Duty Base Small Legal Office

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Government Personal Services Contracting and Antidiscrimination Laws: Tenure for Contractors?, 7 J. CONTRACT MANAGEMENT 127 (2009)

Reconsidering the Letter of Marque: Utilizing Private Security Providers Against Piracy, 39 PUB. CONT. L. J. 411 (Spring 2010)

Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP) Legal Reviews, THE ARMY LAWYER (January 2012)

Nuclear Weapons Targeting: The Evolution of Law and U.S. Policy, 224 MILITARY L. REV. 862 (2016)

Baseline Territorial Sovereignty and Cyberspace, 22 LEWIS & CLARK L. REV. 708 (2018) (co-authored with Sean Watts)

UNOFFICIAL UNITED STATES GUIDE TO THE FIRST ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 12 AUGUST 1949 (2019)

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

First Lieutenant (Air Force)	3 September 2001
Captain	3 March 2002
Major	1 September 2008
Lieutenant Colonel	1 November 2013
Colonel	1 March 2019

(Current as of Dec 2025)