



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT JOSHUA A. THOMAS

CMSgt Joshua A. Thomas is the Cyber Defense Operations Superintendent and Support Senior Enlisted Leader at the Mississippi Combat Readiness Training Center, Gulfport, Miss. As the Support SEL, he advises and assists the Director of Support on managerial and technical matters concerning cyber defense, computer systems, and networking. His primary focus is on fostering the professional growth and readiness of the enlisted force within the Support element, enabling effective wing-level Air National Guard readiness training. CMSgt Thomas is directly responsible to the Director of Support for the professional development, military readiness, and mission effectiveness of his section's enlisted Airmen.

CMSgt Thomas enlisted in the United States Air Force in July 2000, followed by attendance at the Ground Radio Apprentice Course at Keesler AFB, Mississippi, graduating in March, 2002. He has served for over 25 years in the Air National Guard, accruing extensive experience in technical and leadership roles within both radio frequency transmissions and cyber defense operations.



His assignments include Gulfport, Mississippi, with the 255th Air Control Squadron, where he served as a Ground Radio Journeyman, supporting OPERATION NOBLE EAGLE in the immediate aftermath of the 9/11 attacks. At the Combat Readiness Training Center in Gulfport, Mississippi, he continued to serve as a Radio Frequency (RF) Transmissions Systems Craftsman. During his fourteen years at the Combat Readiness Training Center, he expanded his expertise to include Cyber Defense Operations, directly supporting wing-level Air National Guard readiness training in both areas. Prior to his current position, Chief Master Sergeant Thomas was the Radio Frequency (RF) Transmissions Systems Craftsman, Combat Readiness Training Center, Gulfport, Mississippi.

EDUCATION

2001 U.S. Air Force Military Basic Training, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

2005 Airman Leadership School, by correspondence

2010 USAF NCO Academy, Magee Tyson Air National Guard Base, Tenn.

2017 Associate Degree, Electronic System Technology, Community College of The Air Force, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

2018 Associate Degree, Science, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Perkinston, Miss.

2021 USAF SNCO Academy phase III, by correspondence2025- Chief's Executive Course, Joint Base Andrews

2021 Bachelor Science, Business Management. University of Southern Mississippi. Hattiesburg, Miss.

2025 Chief Master Sergeant Orientation Course, Joint Base Andrews

ASSIGNMENTS

- 1. July 2000–June 2007, Ground Radio Journeyman, 255th Air Control Squadron, Gulfport, Miss.
- 2. July 2007 September 2009, Ground Radio Journeyman, Combat Readiness Training Center, Gulfport, Miss.
- 3. October 2009- April 2023, RF Transmissions, Combat Readiness Training Center, Gulfport, Miss.
- 4. May 2023 June 2024, Cyber Defense Operations Superintendent, CRTC, Gulfport, Miss.
- 5. June 2024- Present, Comm Superintendent-CRTC LG Senior Enlisted Leader, CRTC, Gulfport, Miss.

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Air Force Commendation Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with five oak leaf clusters

Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with seven oak leaf clusters National Defense Service Medal Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

STATE AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Mississippi Medal of Efficiency Mississippi War Medal Mississippi Longevity Medal

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Mississippi NG Enlisted Association

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Airman First Class July 21, 2000 Senior Airman Dec 1, 2001 Staff Sergeant July 9, 2005 Technical Sergeant June 28, 2008 Master Sergeant, Feb 7, 2016 Senior Master Sergeant, Jun 5, 2021 Chief Master Sergeant. Aug 4, 2024

(Current as of Sept. 2025)