



# BIOGRAPHY

## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE



***Michael L. Ballard, GS-15***  
Air Force Chief of Occupational Safety  
United States Air Force  
September 2019 - Present

Mr. Ballard is the Air Force Chief of Occupational Safety, Air Force Safety Center, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. He plans, organizes and directs the worldwide Air Force Occupational Safety and Health (AFOSH) program, encompassing over 680,000 personnel and billions of dollars in real property and equipment.

In addition, he is the principal Air Force safety and occupational health manager for Occupational Safety and Health oversight hearings and deliberations on Air Force safety standards and serves as the primary interface with the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force and Department of Defense on Air Force occupational safety issues. These duties involve program management of Air Force workplace inspection, assessment, and evaluation criteria, requirements for AFOSH safety standards, personal protective equipment, hazard assessment, employee and supervisor safety training, hazard reporting and abatement, contractual safety matters, safety complaints, emergency safety procedures, mishap investigation and reporting, and mishap memorandum of final evaluations. Mr. Ballard provides senior leadership and Air Force safety and occupational health managers with expert guidance and advice on regulations and standards to comply with federal directives and ensure sound safety programs. He is a member of the Defense Safety Oversight Council Integration Group.

Past Joint Service experience includes: Air Force safety lead to the Joint Service Tactical Vehicle Working Group and the DoD Deployments & Operations Working Group; Air Force safety subject matter expert on the Military Training Task Force (Institutional Training Committee and the Military Vehicle Working Group); safety subject matter expert on the Joint Service Safety Council, Training, and Education Committee. Led 2016 safety program review of Joint Bases.

He entered the Air Force in August, 1975, serving nine years as a fire fighter/fire inspector. In May 1984, he retrained into Occupational Safety. After military retirement he entered civil service. Previous safety positions: safety apprentice/craftsman, Wing Occupational/Weapons Safety Manager, Air Logistics Center Flight Safety Manager, Wing Chief of Safety, USAFE Deputy Director of Safety, AFSEC Occupational Safety Operations, Evaluations and Training Branch Chief, and Air Force Deputy Chief of Occupational Safety. Past assignments: Chanute AFB, Altus AFB, Loring AFB, Cannon AFB, Incirlik AB, Ankara AS, Zaragoza AB, Williams AFB, Laughlin AFB, Kelly AFB, Lackland AFB, and Ramstein AB.

### EDUCATION

Executive Education, Leadership for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Harvard Kennedy School  
Bachelor of Science; dual in Safety and Fire, Wayland Baptist University  
Associate of Applied Sciences degree in Safety Technology, Community College of the Air Force  
Associate of Applied Sciences degree in Fire Science, Community College of the Air Force

### CERTIFICATION & Professional Organization Memberships

Board of Certified Hazard Control Management; Certified Hazard Control Manager – Master Level  
Professional Member of American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP)  
Government & Public Sector Division member: National Safety Council (NSC)