



2019 Copper 5 Honors Awards Luncheon Wednesday, October 9, 2019



Major Truman Young Award Recipient **CAPTAIN TARA C. NORRIS**



Captain Tara Norris serves as the Medical Administrative Officer for the 161st Air Refueling Wing Medical Group, Phoenix, Arizona. As Medical Administrative Officer, she provides leadership and guidance to 60 medical personnel. As Deputy Commander, she advises the ARW/CC on all aspects medical, Individual Medical Readiness and deployment availability of over 850 Air National Guard wing members.

Capt Norris received a direct commission into the Medical Service Corps in 2017. She completed Health Services Administration training at Joint Base San Antonio in November 2017. Stationed at Luke AFB, Capt Norris was the Medical Readiness Flight Commander, serving as the readiness advisor to the 56th Medical Group Commander. Capt Norris also served as the Medical Group Executive Officer. Her Luke career culminated as Group Practice

Manager leading 13 clinic operations and overseeing the Airman Medical Readiness Optimization program for the 56 Fighter Wing. Prior to her service in the USAF, Capt Norris was the Vice President of Operations for a national, multi-hospital emergency department recovery management system.

EDUCATION

- 2001 Bachelor of Arts, Communication, University of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.
- 2013 Master of Business Administration, Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Ariz.
- 2017 Commissioned Officer Training School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
- 2017 Health Services Administration, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas
- 2019 Group Practice Management, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas
- 2020 Project Management Certification, Phoenix, Ariz.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 2017- June 2019 – Medical Readiness Flight Commander, 56th Medical Support Squadron, Luke AFB, Ariz.
2. June 2018- June 2019 – Executive Officer, 56th Medical Group, Luke AFB, Ariz
3. May 2019- February 2021- Group Practice Manager, 56th Medical Group, Luke AFB, Ariz.
4. February 2021- Current, Medical Administrative Officer, 161st Medical Group, 161 ARW, ANG, Ariz.

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Air Force Commendation Medal
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with four oak leaf clusters
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
National Defense Service Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant, May 22, 2017
First Lieutenant, December 5, 2017
Captain, December 5, 2019
(Current as of November 2021)