

COLONEL JEFFREY L. GARRETT, CAP

Col Jeff Garrett was appointed Southeast Region Commander, CAP, on 23 September 2023 and has responsibility for the 9,100 plus members from Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Prior to this, Col Garrett served as the Georgia Wing Commander from 2019-2023. Col Garrett joined Civil Air Patrol in 1973 as a Cadet in the Rome GA Squadron and went on to join the US Air Force.

During his career in the Air Force, he served as a Weapons Systems Security Specialist, Master Instructor for the Air Force Security Police Academy, a Ground Defense Combat Skills Instructor with focuses on Officer Training and weapons systems training, a Professional Military Education (PME) Instructor, an Acting First Sergeant, Tactical Neutralization/Emergency Services Teams Trainer and Leader, K-9 evaluator, and as a Security Police Superintendent.

He spent time at military installations worldwide and was deployed numerous times as part of the US Air Force Rapid Deployment Force. Col Garrett retired from Active Duty and then served as a District Fire Chief and Paramedic Supervisor in Bellevue Nebraska as well as an Emergency Room and Critical Care (ICU) Paramedic. He also served as an adjunct instructor for the Creighton University Paramedic Training program.



Col Garrett then started his new career in public service working in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as a Police Chief at the Omaha Nebraska VA Medical Center, later being promoted to the Chief of Police for all VA properties and facilities in Nebraska. He became Chief of Police for the Atlanta VA Police in 2003, leading one of the VA's largest Police Departments.

Numerous times he served in the capacity of Protective Service Detail for Presidential Cabinet Members and as a Special Deputy US Marshal. After many years in VA Law Enforcement leadership and management, he decided it was time to accept new and different challenges and he moved into analytics as a GS-13 Program Analyst. Numerous times in the VA he has been called upon to serve in Acting roles as GS-14/GS-15 Assistant and Associate Director. In 2021, he retired from Civil Service.

Col Garrett has an associate degree from the Community College of the Air Force, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration and a Master of Public Administration Degree from Bellevue University, Nebraska. He is also a distinguished graduate of the Air Force NCO Academy, honor graduate of the VA Police Academy, a graduate of the Creighton University (Nebraska) Paramedic Program and completed the VA's top 2 leadership programs. He is also a Graduate of CAP National Staff College, Region/Wing Commander College, National Safety Officer College and has completed Level 5 of the CAP Professional Development Program and holds Master Ratings in several CAP Specialty Tracks.

He has served as Wing Director of Aerospace Education, Squadron Deputy Commander, Squadron Commander, Region Deputy Chief of Staff for Cadet Programs, Commandant of Cadets for many Encampments (to include Germany), an Instructor for Cadet Officer School, Region Cadet Leadership School and Region Staff College and is currently a Level 5 Instructor for the new CAP Education Program for Senior Members and served on the National CAP Awards Committee.

His CAP Decorations include the Distinguished Service Award, Exceptional Service Award, Meritorious Service Award, and Commander's Commendation Award. Col Garrett is a rated Mission Observer and Scanner.

Col Garrett has been married to his wife Connie since 1984; they have two children (Jillian and Matthew) and two grandchildren (Peyton and Carter).