

# 56<sup>th</sup> MEDICAL OPERATIONS SQUADRON



## **MISSION**

## **LINEAGE**

56<sup>th</sup> Medical Operations Squadron constituted, 21 Mar 1994  
Activated, 1 Apr 1994

## **STATIONS**

Luke AFB, AZ, 1 Apr 1994

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

56<sup>th</sup> Medical Group, 1 Apr 1994

## **COMMANDERS**

Col Reba Ray, 1 April 1994  
Col Michael Gookin, 20 October 1994  
LTC James N. Black, 13 February 1997  
LTC Margaret B. Matarese, 12 Jul 1999  
LTC Gail McCain, 31 May 2001  
LTC Paul A. Friedrichs, 22 May 2003  
LTC Janet T. Taylor, 17 May 2005  
Col Dean L. Messelheiser, 5 Jun 2007  
Col David C. Hall, 20 May 2009  
Col Nicola A. Choate, 10 Jun 2011

## **HONORS**

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

## **Decorations**

### **Air Force Outstanding Unit Award**

1 Jul 1994-30 Jun 1996  
1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998  
1 Jul 1998-30 Jun 2000  
1 Jul 2001-30 Jun 2003  
1 Jun [Jul] 2003-30 Jun 2005  
1 Jul 2005-30 Jun 2006  
1 Jul 2006-30 Jun 2007  
1 Jul 2007-30 Jun 2008  
1 Jul 2008-30 Jun 2009  
1 Jul 2009-30 Jun 2010  
1 Jul 2010-30 Jun 2011

## **EMBLEM**

Per fess Azure and Gules radiating to chief from fess point four rays Or, overall a Staff of Aesculapius, staff Brown, serpent Vert; all within a diminished bordure of the first. Attached below the disc a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "56th MEDICAL OPS SQ. " in Black letters. **SIGIFICANCE:** Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The Staff of Aesculapius stands for hope, life and wisdom as well as the unit's mission of providing quality patient health care. The alternating rays suggest twenty-four hour medical care that is provided by the squadron. (Approved, 23Oct 1997)

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

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Air Force Order of Battle  
Created: 13 Dec 2010  
Updated:

### Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.