



COLONEL MATTHEW M. JOHNSON

Col. Matthew M. Johnson serves as Vice Commander of Civil Air Patrol's Rocky Mountain Region. In this role, Col. Johnson assists and advises the region commander in leading and managing more than 4,000 volunteer professionals and more than \$30 million in assets across Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Utah, and Wyoming, to execute CAP's three-fold mission of emergency services, aviation, space and cyber education, and youth leadership development.

Col. Johnson joined Civil Air Patrol in 1980 at age 13 as a Cadet in Utah Wing's Enterprise Composite Squadron (now known as Thunderbird Cadet Squadron). In his eight years as a Cadet, he served as encampment Cadet Commander, competed in the National Cadet Competition, chaired the wing Cadet Advisory Council, commanded the Wing's cadet drill team, and participated in several national cadet special activities, including Cadet Officer School and the International Air Cadet Exchange. In 1988, he became the 14th Utah Wing cadet to earn the General Carl A. Spaatz Award.



As a CAP Senior Member, Col. Johnson has served in command and staff roles at the squadron, group and wing levels in Utah Wing and California Wing, including assignments as a squadron commander, group commander and interim wing commander. He served as project officer for Utah Wing's support of development testing for the U.S. Army's Joint Land-Attack Cruise Missile Defense Elevated Netted Sensor system, for which he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award and which garnered the Utah Wing a National Commander's Unit Citation Award.

Professionally, Col. Johnson is a Captain for SkyWest Airlines, where he flies the Embraer E175 regional jet. Before his present career in aviation, he worked as a web development consultant for a number of Fortune 500 companies and as an art director and graphic designer in advertising and public broadcasting.

Leveraging his professional experience as a graphic designer, Col. Johnson has designed a number of organizational emblems for Civil Air Patrol, including the official emblems presently in use by Utah Wing and New Hampshire Wing. He also designed and illustrated signage for CAP aircraft displays that have seen use across the nation.

Col. Johnson holds an FAA Airline Transport Pilot certificate and is a CAP Command Pilot with more than 5,500 flying hours. He is a qualified Incident Commander and was previously an active SAR/DR Mission Pilot and Cadet Orientation Pilot. He holds Master ratings in Cadet Programs and Operations, a Senior rating in Communications and has participated in a total of 17 cadet encampments in Utah and California.

The colonel is a graduate of the University of Utah and resides in Cottonwood Heights, Utah.

EDUCATION

1982 Rocky Mountain Region Cadet Leadership School, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo.
1984 Cadet Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
1997 Senior Training Program for Cadet Leaders, McClellan Air Force Base, Calif.
2001 Squadron Leadership School, Travis Air Force Base, Calif.
2001 Unit Commanders Course, Naval Air Station Lemoore, Calif.
2001 Corporate Learning Course, Travis Air Force Base, Calif.
2004 Bachelor of Science, Psychology, University of Utah
2006 Pacific Region Staff College, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.
2010 Inland SAR Planning Course, National Search and Rescue School, Salt Lake City, Utah

CIVIL AIR PATROL ASSIGNMENTS

October 1980 – August 1988, Cadet, Utah Wing
September 1988 – April 1990, Cadet Program Development Officer, Utah Wing
July 1997 – February 2002, Commander, San Francisco Cadet Squadron 86, California Wing
October 2003 – May 2004, Cadet Programs Officer, South Coast Group 7, California Wing
April 2005 – September 2006, Deputy Commander, Bountiful Senior Squadron, Utah Wing
November 2006 – April 2007, Director of Professional Development, Utah Wing
February 2007 – May 2007, Chief of Staff, Utah Wing
April 2008 – January 2010, Commander, Southern Utah Group, Utah Wing
February 2010 – January 2015, Chief, Operations Special Projects, Utah Wing
January 2015 – January 2017, Director of Flight Operations, Utah Wing
March 2021 – May 2021, Government Relations Officer, Utah Wing
April 2021 – Oct 2022, Vice Commander, Utah Wing
October 2022 – March 2023, Commander, Utah Wing (Interim)
January 2024 – present, Vice Commander, Rocky Mountain Region

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Ratings: Command Pilot, Observer
Flight Hours: More than 5,500
Aircraft Flown: Cessna 152/172/182/206, Piper PA-28/PA-34/PA-44, Dornier 328, General Atomics
Aeronautical Systems MQ-1B *Predator* remotely-piloted aircraft, Canadair Regional Jet 200/700/900,
Embraer E175 regional jet

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Air Force Organizational Excellence Award
Distinguished Service Award
Exceptional Service Award
Meritorious Service Award
Commander's Commendation Award with 7 bronze clasps
Achievement Award
National Commander's Unit Citation Award
Paul E. Garber Award
General Carl A. Spaatz Award
Command Service Ribbon with bronze star
Crisis Service Ribbon
Aerial "FIND" Ribbon with aircrew device and 2 bronze clasps
Air Search and Rescue Ribbon with aircrew device and 2 silver clasps
Homeland Security Ribbon with 2 silver clasps
International Air Cadet Exchange Ribbon
National Cadet Competition Ribbon
Cadet Advisory Council Ribbon with bronze star

National Cadet Special Activities Ribbon with one bronze clasp
Encampment Ribbon with 3 silver clasps

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Captain: Sep. 13, 1988

Major: Nov. 20, 2001

Lieutenant Colonel: Jun. 14, 2006

Colonel: Jan. 24, 2024

(Current as of January 2024)