



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL ANNE-MARIE CONTRERAS

Colonel Anne-Marie Contreras is the Director of the Joint Personnel Recovery Agency (JPRA), headquartered in Fort Belvoir, Virginia. JPRA is a Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Controlled Activity aligned under the Joint Staff Director for Joint Force Development (J7). JPRA leads DoD Personnel Recovery (PR) by providing strategic direction, oversight, operational support, analysis, capability development, training, and education to improve PR interoperability, enabling DoD, the interagency, and multinational partners to prevent, prepare for, and respond to isolating events.

Colonel Contreras grew up in Albuquerque, New Mexico and graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1997. She is a graduate of Flight Safety School, Advanced Instrument School, Operational Resource Management School, Squadron Officer School (in res), Air Command and Staff College (in res), and Air War College (in res). Her safety expertise were utilized on NASA's Space Shuttle Columbia Accident Investigation Board. As the 811th Operations Support Squadron Commander at Joint Base Andrews, her unit received special recognition as the Commander in Chief, Installation Excellence Award winner. While stationed at the Pentagon, Col Contreras was Chief, Vertical Lift Requirements Branch, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, responsible for all Air Force vertical lift weapons systems in a portfolio worth over \$20.6 billion. Col Contreras also served as the Deployable Training Team Chief for the Joint Staff, J7, Suffolk, VA where she led a selectively manned joint training unit to train and advise Geographic Combatant Command (GCC) and Joint Task Force (JTF) Headquarter staffs during global contingency operations including support to GCC exercises and staff assistance visits. Prior to her current position as the JPRA Director, Colonel Contreras served as the Commander, 316th Operations Group, Joint Base Andrews, Maryland, where she oversaw the daily operations of two squadrons, a contract maintenance unit, a contract simulator unit, and the employment of 22 UH-1N helicopters tasked with providing continuous contingency response airlift, aviation operations, and flight management support for joint interagency operations, senior officials in the National Capital Region, and other worldwide customers.



Colonel Contreras is a Command Pilot with more than 2,400 hours of flight time and over 240 hours of combat time in the UH-1N, UH-1H, and UH-1HP. She has deployed and flown in support of Operations ENDURING and IRAQI FREEDOM. She is married to Jose Gonzalez (USAF ret) and they have two sons, Jack and Adam.

EDUCATION

1997 Bachelor of Science in Management, United States Air Force Academy, CO

2002 Master of Business Administration, Regis University, CO

2002 Squadron Officer School, Ritchie Leadership Award, Maxwell AFB, AL

2010 Master of Military Operational Art and Science, Commandant's Award for Research Excellence, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL

2014 Air War College, non-residence, Maxwell AFB, AL

2017 Master of Strategic Studies, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, AL

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Aug 97 – Apr 98, Assistant to Commander/Gold Bar, AFROTC NE Region HQ, Wright Patterson AFB, OH
2. Apr 98 – Oct 98, Student Pilot, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Vance AFB, OK
3. Oct 98 – Jul 99, Student Pilot, Joint Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training - Helicopter, Ft Rucker, AL
4. Jul 99 – Jan 03, Instructor/Evaluator Pilot, Standardization & Evaluation Liaison Officer, Executive Officer, Chief of Training, 37th Helicopter Flight, F.E. Warren AFB, WY
5. Jan 03 – Feb 04, Instructor Pilot, Chief of Flight Safety, 90th Space Wing, F.E. Warren AFB, WY
6. Feb 04 – May 07, Instructor/Evaluator Pilot, Current Operations Flight Commander, Executive Officer, 1st

Helicopter Squadron, Andrews AFB, MD

7. May 07 – May 08, Instructor/Evaluator Pilot, Coalition Air Force Transition Team Air Advisor, 2d Squadron, Iraqi Air Force, Taji Air Base, Iraq
8. May 08 – Aug 09, Wargame Director, Curtis E. LeMay Center for Doctrine Development and Education, Maxwell AFB, AL
9. Aug 09 – Jun 10, student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
10. Jun 10 – Dec 10, Flight Commander, 505th Training Squadron, Hurlburt Field, FL
11. Dec 10 – Sep 12, Chief of Wing Plans and Programs, 505th Command and Control Wing, Hurlburt Field, FL
12. Sep 12 – Jun 13, Director of Operations, 1st Helicopter Squadron, Joint Base Andrews, MD
13. Jun 13 – Jun 15, Commander, 811th Operations Support Squadron, Joint Base Andrews, MD
14. Jun 15 – Jun 16, Chief, Vertical Lift Requirements Branch, HQ U.S. Air Force/A5/8, Washington DC
15. Jul 16 – May 17, student, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, AL
16. May 17 – Jun 19, Team Chief, Deployable Training Division, Joint Staff/J7, Suffolk, VA
17. Jul 19 – Jun 21, Commander, 316th Operations Group, Joint Base Andrews, MD
18. Jun 21 – Present, Director, Joint Personnel Recovery Agency, Fort Belvoir, VA

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. May 17 – May 19, Team Chief, Deployable Training Division, Joint Staff/J7, Suffolk, VA
2. Jun 21 – Present, Director, Joint Personnel Recovery Agency, Fort Belvoir, VA

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight Hours: 2,400+, including more than 240 combat hours

Aircraft Flown: T-3A, T-37B, UH-1H, UH-1N, UH-1HP

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit

Defense Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant	28 May 1997
First Lieutenant	28 May 1999
Captain	28 May 2001
Major	01 January 2007
Lieutenant Colonel	01 April 2012
Colonel	01 October 2018

(Current as of June 2022)