

Brig. Gen. Paul Friedrichs

Joint Staff Surgeon



Brig. Gen. Paul Friedrichs is the Joint Staff Surgeon, Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. He is the Chairman's principal medical advisor, responsible for ensuring that the Joint Force is medically ready to deploy and medically sustained in a deployed environment. He supports Combatant Command requirements as the Global medical integrator for the Joint Force.

Prior to the Joint Staff, he served as the Command Surgeon, Headquarters Air Combat Command at Fort Eustis, Virginia.

General Friedrichs received his commission through the ROTC in 1986 and his Doctor of Medicine degree from the Uniformed Services University in 1990. He has served as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery and published 10 peer-reviewed surgical articles. He has commanded at the squadron and group level, and led joint and interagency teams which earned numerous awards, including "Best Air Force Hospital." He led one of the Air Force surgical teams which responded to the Pentagon on Sept. 11. As the Command Surgeon, U.S. Transportation Command, he rebaselined Defense Department global patient movement requirements, published Base Plan 9008, CONUS Patient Distribution Plan and safely moved thousands of ill and injured worldwide, including from combat operations and during multiple disaster responses.

EDUCATION

1986 Bachelor of Science, Biology, Tulane University, New Orleans

1990 Doctor of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, Md.

1997 Urologic Surgery Residency, Wilford Hall and Brooke Army Medical Centers, San Antonio

1998 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

2001 Aerospace Medicine Primary Course, USAFSAM, Brooks AFB, Texas 2003 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

2006 Space Operations Executive Course, National Space Security Institute, Colorado Springs, Colo.

2006 Interagency Institute for Healthcare Executives, Washington, D.C.

2008 National War College, Distinguished Graduate, Fort McNair, Washington, D.C. 2010 Medical Capstone Program, Washington, D.C.

2016 USAF Executive Development Program, University of North Carolina Keenan-Flagler Business School, Chapel Hill

ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 1990–June 1991, Surgical Intern, Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland AFB, Texas

2. July 1991–June 1992, General Medical Officer, Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland AFB, Texas

3. June 1992–June 1997, Urological Surgery Resident, Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland AFB, Texas

4. July 1997–October 1997, Assistant Chief, Urology, 89th MDG, Andrews AFB, Md.
5. November 1997–September 1999, Chief, Urology, 89th MDG, Andrews AFB, Md.
6. October 1999–September 2000, Chief, Population Health Management, 89th MDG, Andrews AFB, Md.
7. October 2000–July 2001, Analyst, Health Benefits and Policy Division, Office of the Surgeon General, Headquarters Air Force, Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C.
8. August 2001–June 2002, Chief, Operations Branch, Office of the Surgeon General, Headquarters Air Force, Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C.
9. July 2002–May 2003, Chief, Optimization and Integration Division, Air Force Medical Operations Agency (AFMOA), Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C.
10. May 2003–May 2005, Commander, 56th Medical Operations Squadron, Luke AFB, Ariz. (September 2004–January 2005, Commander, 332nd Expeditionary Aeromedical Operations Squadron, Balad Air Base, Iraq)
11. June 2005–April 2006, Chief, Aeromedical and Clinical Services Branches, Headquarters Air Force Space Command, Peterson AFB, Colo.
12. May 2006–July 2007, Chief, Medical Operations Division, Headquarters Air Force Space Command, Peterson AFB, Colo.
13. August 2007–June 2008, Student, National War College, Fort McNair, Washington, D.C.
14. August 2008–July 2010, Commander, 3rd Medical Group, 3rd Wing, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
15. July 2010–July 2011, Commander, 673d Medical Group, 673rd Air Base Wing, JB Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska
16. July 2011–July 2014, Command Surgeon, HQ Pacific Air Forces, JB Pearl Harbor- Hickam, Hawaii
17. July 2014–June 2016, Vice Commander, AFMOA, JB San Antonio, Lackland, Texas
18. January 2015-June 2015, Chair, Joint Task Force on High Reliability Organizations, Office of the Assistance Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, Washington, D.C.
19. June 2016 – July 2018, Command Surgeon, US Transportation Command, Scott AFB, Ill.
20. July 2018- July 2019, Air Combat Command (ACC), Command Surgeon, JB Langley-Eustis, Va.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Senior Flight Surgeon

Flight hours: 294 including 30 combat flying hours

Aircraft: C-17, C-130, C-141, C-21, C-23, KC-135, C-12, UH-60A and CH-47

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Superior Service Medal

Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters Bronze Star

Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters Joint Service Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

Army Achievement Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster Arizona State Guard Meritorious Service Medal

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

National Defense University President's Writing Award

Federal Liaison to the Governor of Alaska's Health Care Commission Presidential Citation, American Urological Association

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Diplomat of the American Board of Urology Fellow of the American College of Surgeons Associate Fellow, Aerospace Medical Association Alpha Omega Alpha

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant May 17, 1986

Captain May 19, 1990

Major May 19, 1996

Lieutenant Colonel May 19, 2002

Colonel May 29, 2007

Brigadier General June 2, 2018

(Current as of August 2019)