

CMSgt Dan Montgomery; DSN 574-1278; [daniel.montgomery@langley.af.mil](mailto:daniel.montgomery@langley.af.mil)

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# USAF Public Health Career Field News

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## PH SMSgt to Retire

Congratulations to **Senior Master Sergeant George F. Bell, Jr.** and thanks for your long and distinguished service to our Air Force.



SMSgt George F. Bell, Jr. is the Superintendent, 24th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, Howard AFB, Panama. The Squadron provides services in the areas of Public Health, Bioenvironmental Engineering, Flight Medicine, Physical Exams and Standards, Optometry, Health Promotions and until its inactivation, Aeromedical Evacuation.

SMSgt Bell is a native of Newark, Delaware and a 1977 graduate of Bohemia Manor High School, in Chesapeake City, Maryland. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science (with distinction) from Park College, Parkville, Missouri, and Associate Degrees in Environmental Medicine Technology, and Instructor of Technology and Military Science from the Community College of the Air Force. SMSgt Bell is a graduate of the Air Force Senior NCO

Academy, a Distinguished Graduate and Academic Achievement Award winner from the 15th Air Force NCO Leadership School and a Distinguished Graduate from the Pacific Air Command NCO Academy.

After graduating from Basic Military Training SMSgt Bell was stationed at Brooks AFB, Texas and completed the Army Veterinary Specialist course at Fort Sam Houston, Texas and the Air Force Veterinary Specialist course at Brooks AFB. His first assignment as a Veterinary Specialist was to March AFB, California, in January 1978. There he ensured the safety of food supplies by conducting inspections on food when received and while in storage and inspecting food preparation facilities. He also assisted the Base Veterinarian with the care of Military Working Dogs and he conducted vaccination and sick call clinics. In January 1982, he was reassigned to McGuire AFB, New Jersey, where he became an Environmental Medicine Technician with the abolishment of the USAF Veterinary Service. While at McGuire AFB, he performed food safety and facility inspections and assisted with the transition from Veterinary Services to Environmental Health. SMSgt Bell separated from the Air Force in August 1993, and lived in San Diego, California and attended San Diego State University.

In February 1995, Sergeant Bell reentered active duty and was assigned to March AFB, California. There he was the NCOIC, Food Inspection and NCOIC, Occupational Health and Communicable Disease Control. In April 1987, he was reassigned as the NCOIC, Environmental Health, at Kunsan AB, Korea. There he supervised and managed all Environmental Health programs, communicable disease control being a major challenge. After Korea, he was assigned to K.I. Sawyer (or Siberia) AFB, Michigan in April 1988. There he was the Superintendent, Military Public Health and his duties once again were to supervise and manage all public health programs.

In June 1992, Sergeant Bell was assigned as an Instructor and the Superintendent, Department of Public Health, at the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks AFB, Texas. There he supervised the instruction and curriculum development for 3 resident courses and the Public Health Career Development Course. He was the Honor Graduate from his Technical Training Instructor Course and was awarded the Master Instructor rating. He developed and published the first Public Health Career Field Education and Training Plan. He also served as the interim Public Health Career Field Manager for a six-month period in 1994.

Sergeant Bell's military decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with one oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Good Conduct Medal with five oak leaf clusters, the National Defense Service Medal and the Humanitarian Service Medal. He was promoted to Senior Master Sergeant on 1 December 1995.

Sergeant Bell is married to the former Mary M. Lynn of Riverside, California. They have two children: a son Christopher, 17 years old and a daughter Sarah, 13 years old. After a vacation in California, the Bell's plan to settle in Newark, Delaware.