



# BIOGRAPHY

## NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

### CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT DENISE M. JELINSKI-HALL

Chief Master Sergeant Denise M. Jelinski-Hall finished her distinguished career serving as the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau. In this position her responsibilities included advising the Chief of the National Guard Bureau on all enlisted matters affecting training and utilization, health of the force, and enlisted professional development of approximately 415,000 National Guard Soldiers and Airmen. Additionally, she was heavily involved in all matters that affected the families of National Guard Soldiers and Airmen. While assigned to the Pentagon, she served on numerous executive level committees representing the National Guard Enlisted Corps.



Chief Jelinski-Hall was born in Little Falls, Minnesota. She enlisted in the Air Force and reported to Lackland Air Force Base, Texas for Air Force Basic Military Training on November 14, 1984. She completed Air Traffic Control Training at Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Mississippi. She was assigned to Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska in July 1985. In April 1987, she Palace Chased into the California Air National Guard and served as a Ground Radio Operator. She and her family moved to Hawaii in 1990 where she joined the 297<sup>th</sup> Air Traffic Control Flight, Barbers Point, Hawaii. In 2002, she transferred to the HQ 201<sup>st</sup> Combat Communications Group, Hickam AFB, Hawaii where she served as a Combat Airspace Manager. In 2004, she was selected to serve as the Command Chief for the 154<sup>th</sup> Wing, Hawaii Air National Guard. In 2006, she was selected as the Command Chief Master Sergeant for the Hawaii Air National Guard. Shortly thereafter the Adjutant General of Hawaii selected her to serve as the State Senior Enlisted Leader for the Hawaii National Guard (Army and Air). She held both positions simultaneously until she assumed the position of the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau in February 2010.

In 2010, Chief Jelinski-Hall achieved the distinction of being the first woman to hold the highest position ever held by an enlisted female in the history of the United States Armed Forces.

### EDUCATION

2018-Trident University International, Graduate Certificate in Strategic Leadership, Cypress, CA  
2015 Trident University International, Bachelors of Science Degree/Business Administration, Cypress, CA  
2013 Leadership Champions Program, Arlington, VA  
2010 Command Senior Enlisted Leadership Course, Keystone, Washington, D.C.  
2008 Leadership Development Program, Center for Creative Leadership, Greensboro, NC  
2008 National Guard Bureau. Diversity Champions Course, Kapolei, HI  
2007 Associate of Airway Science Degree, Community College of the Air Force  
2006 Chief Leadership Course, Alabama  
2005 United States Air Force Inspectors Course, Hawaii  
2004 Air National Guard Chief Master Sergeant Orientation Course, Maryland  
2004 Air National Guard Command Chief Master Sergeant Course, Texas  
2003 United States Air Force Investigating Officers Course, Hawaii  
2002 Joint Aerospace Command and Control Course, Hurlburt Air Force Base, Florida  
1999 Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Academy Correspondence Course  
1998 Military Airspace Manager Course, Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi  
1998 Academic Instructor Course, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii  
1996 Non-Commissioned Officer Academy Correspondence Course  
1988 Ground Radio Operator Correspondence Course, San Diego, California  
1985 Air Traffic Control Operator Course, Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

1. November 1984 - December 1984, Basic Military Training School, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
2. December 1984 - May 1985, Air Traffic Control Operator Course/Associate Instructor Duty, Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi
3. May 1985 - March 1987, Air Traffic Control Journeymen, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska
4. April 1987 - September 1988, Ground Radio Operator Journeymen, 261st Combat Communications Squadron, California Air National Guard, Van Nuys, California
5. September 1988 - October 1990, Ground Radio Operator Journeymen, 147th Combat Communications Squadron, San Diego, California
6. October 1990 - July 2002, Air Traffic Control Superintendent/Tower Chief Controller, 297th Air Traffic Control Squadron, Kalaeloa Airport, Hawaii Air National Guard, Kalaeloa, Hawaii
7. July 2002 – February 2004, Headquarters 201st Combat Communications Group, Air Traffic Control Specialist and Combat Airspace Manager, Hawaii Air National Guard, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii
8. February 2004 – December 2006, Command Chief Master Sergeant, 154th Wing, Hawaii Air National Guard, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii
9. December 2006 – February 2010, Command Chief Master Sergeant / Senior Enlisted Leader, Hawaii National Guard, Honolulu, Hawaii
10. February 2010 – July 2013, Senior Enlisted Advisor for the National Guard Bureau, Arlington, VA

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Defense Superior Service Medal  
Legion of Merit  
Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters  
Air Force Commendation Medal  
Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters  
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters  
Air Force Organizational Excellence Award  
Air Force Reserve Meritorious Service Medal with six oak leaf clusters  
Air Force Recognition Ribbon  
National Defense Service Medal with one star  
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal  
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal  
Humanitarian Service Medal  
Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal  
Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with gold frame  
Air Force Longevity Service Award with five oak leaf clusters  
State of Hawaii - Distinguished Service Order

## **OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS**

Co-Author – Breaching the Summit (2018)  
Author – From the Prairie to the Pentagon (2017)  
Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, presented by Hawaii Pacific University (2017)  
Top 30 – John C. Maxwell Leadership Award (2015) / Top 100 – John C. Maxwell Award (2014)  
Recipient of the Minuteman Award from the Enlisted Association of the National Guard, (2013)  
First enlisted woman to serve as a Senior Enlisted Advisor to a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (2012)  
Top-five finalist considered for the position of the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force (2012)  
Department of Defense Trailblazer Award, National Guard Bureau (2008)  
Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year, Hawaii Air National Guard (2001)  
Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year, 297th Air Traffic Control Squadron (1997)  
Air Traffic Controller of the Year, Hawaii Air National Guard (1992)

## **ASSOCIATIONS**

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve – volunteer (2020-present)  
Veterans United Home Loans – Military Advisor (2016-2024)  
United Through Reading – 8 yr. Board of Trustee, past Vice Chair, Audit Chairperson, and Secretary  
Military Child Education Coalition – Board of Trustee member (2014-2016)  
Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) – life member  
The Enlisted Association (TREA) – life member  
Veterans of Foreign Wars – life member