



DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE
ALASKA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ELEMENT, JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS
49000 ARMY GUARD ROAD
JOINT BASE ELMENDORF - RICHARDSON AK 99505-0800

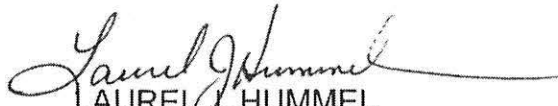
NGAK-TAG

1 February 2016

Message to the Force #3

SUBJECT: Announcement of Key NCO Position Selections

1. Non-Commissioned Officers are the backbone of our military. They provide experience, leadership, technical acumen, and valuable counsel on issues of importance to our Soldiers and Airmen. Strong, grounded NCO's have provided me guidance throughout my military career, indeed – as the daughter of an NCO – for a lifetime. While I am your Adjutant General, the Alaska National Guard (AKNG) will always have a Senior Enlisted Leader (SEL) as my Battlebuddy/Wingman.
2. CSM Richard Hildreth has served ably as AKNG's first SEL. He will now transition to become the first AKNG Liaison to Tribes and Rural Communities. CSM Hildreth's knowledge of and experience in rural Alaska will be critical to the success of our Rural Engagement Initiative to expand the Alaska State Defense Force and work toward improving conditions for National Guard membership in rural Alaska. CSM Hildreth's efforts will be focused on this aspect of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs Strategic Plan.
3. I have selected CMSgt Paul Nelson, currently 176th Wing Command Chief, as your next Senior Enlisted Leader. CMSgt Nelson has had a unique variety of professional experiences over 28 years that have positioned him for success in this important leadership role. I know he will be a true command team partner to me, and that he will advocate strongly for the best interest of our Soldiers and Airmen.
4. The change of Senior Enlisted Leader position from CSM Hildreth to CMSgt Nelson is effective as of Friday, 5 February. A Change of Responsibility Ceremony will occur on Sunday, 6 March: time and place will be widely communicated. Please join us as we affirm the value of the NCO to our force.


LAUREL J. HUMMEL
Brigadier General (AK), AKNG
The Adjutant General