



# BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

## SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT TRAVIS A. GOTCH

SMSgt Travis A. Gotch is the First Sergeant for the 368th Training Squadron, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He serves as the focal point on matters influencing the readiness, welfare, morale, and effective utilization of the unit's 300 permanent party, TDY students and Non-Prior Service Airman in training. Additionally, he advises the personnel issues, performance reports, decorations, and recognition programs.

SMSgt Gotch enlisted in the Air Force in February 2005 and graduated from the Imagery Analysis Apprentice Course in October 2005. His background includes exploiting imagery collected both by National Technical Means and Airborne Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance assets, mission planning for the U-2, and served as a collection manager at both the operational and strategic levels. He has deployed in support of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM, IRAQI FREEDOM, NEW DAWN, and INHERENT RESOLVE, and completed overseas tours in Hawaii and Germany. Prior to his current position, the senior master sergeant was the First Sergeant, 21st Operational Weather Squadron, Kapaun AS, Germany.



## EDUCATION

2005 Air Force Basic Military Training, Lackland Air Force Base (AFB), Texas

2005 Imagery Analysis Technical Training School, Goodfellow AFB, Texas

2007 Associate of Applied Arts, Communications Applications Technology, Community College of the Air Force, Maxwell-Gunter AFB, Ala.

2010 Airman Leadership School, Langley AFB, Va.

2013 Bachelor of Arts, Criminal Justice, American Military University, Charles Town, W.Va.

2016 Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Hickam AFB, Hawaii

2018 Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy (Basic Phase III), Maxwell-Gunter AFB, Ala., by correspondence

2018 Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education Course I, National Defense University, Washington, D.C., by correspondence

2019 Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education Course II, National Defense University, Washington, D.C., by correspondence

2020 Master of Arts, Homeland Security, American Military University, Charles Town, W.Va.

2021 United States Air Force First Sergeant Academy, Maxwell-Gunter AFB, Ala.

2024 Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Maxwell-Gunter AFB, Ala.

## ASSIGNMENTS

1. February 2005–March 2005, Trainee, Air Force Basic Military Training, Lackland Air Force Base (AFB), Texas

2. March 2005–October 2005, Student, 315th Training Squadron, Goodfellow AFB, Texas

3. October 2005–August 2009, Range Imagery Analyst, 36th Intelligence Squadron, Langley AFB, Va. (April 2007–November 2007, Imagery Analyst, Al Udeid Air Base (AB), Qatar)





# BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

4. August 2009–December 2010, Collection Manager, Air Force Targeting Center, Langley AFB, Va. (March 2010–September 2010, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Tactical Controller, Joint Operations Center, Joint Base Balad, Iraq)
5. December 2010–December 2014, Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC), Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT) Programs, Headquarters Air Force, Pentagon, Va.
6. December 2014–December 2016, NCOIC, National Exploitation Team, 8th Intelligence Squadron, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
7. December 2016–December 2017, NCOIC, GEOINT Integrations, 692nd Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Group (ISRG), Hickam AFB, Hawaii
8. December 2017–December 2018, Section Chief, 8th Intelligence Squadron, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
9. December 2018–January 2021, Flight Chief, Operations, 11th Special Operations Intelligence Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Fla. (March 2019–August 2019, NCOIC, GEOINT Cell, Kuwait)
10. January 2021–June 2022, First Sergeant, 435th Contingency Response Support Squadron, Ramstein AB, Germany
11. June 2022–January 2025, First Sergeant, 21st Operational Weather Squadron, Ramstein AB, Germany
12. January 2025–Present, First Sergeant, 368th Training Squadron, Mo.

## MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf cluster  
Joint Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster  
Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters  
Air Force Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters  
Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal  
Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal with bronze star

## OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

2011 AF/A2Z Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) of the Year  
2017 692nd ISRG Volunteer of the Year  
2017 692nd ISRG NCO of the Year  
2019 Air Force Special Operations Command Air Force International Affairs Excellence Award 2021 435th AGOW National Public Service Award  
2024 CMSgt Richard L. Etchberger Team Award

## EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

*Airman First Class Feb 8, 2005*  
*Senior Airman June 8, 2007*  
*Staff Sergeant Feb 1, 2010*  
*Technical Sergeant Dec 1, 2015*  
*Master Sergeant March 1, 2019*

(Current as of March 2025)

