



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

Mike DeWine, Governor

Major General Matthew S. Woodruff, Adjutant General

For Immediate Release

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Ohio National Guard statement on KC-135 accident

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Three Ohio National Guard Airmen died when a KC-135 Stratotanker crashed in western Iraq on March 12, 2026.

- Capt. Seth Koval, 38, was an aircraft commander with the 121st Air Refueling Wing in Columbus, with 19 years of service. He lived in Stoutsville, Ohio. His Air Force biography is available at: https://ong.ohio.gov/ohang/121st/content/koval_bio.pdf
- Capt. Curtis Angst, 30, was a KC-135 pilot with the 121st Air Refueling Wing in Columbus, with 10 years of service. He lived in Columbus, Ohio. His Air Force biography is available at: https://ong.ohio.gov/ohang/121st/content/angst_bio.pdf
- Master Sgt. Tyler Simmons, 28, was a boom operator with the 121st Air Refueling Wing, with eight years of service. He lived in Columbus, Ohio. His Air Force biography is available at: https://ong.ohio.gov/ohang/121st/content/simmons_bio.pdf

The following is a statement from Maj. Gen. Matthew S. Woodruff, Ohio adjutant general:

“Today we mourn the loss of three remarkable Airmen whose service and commitment embodied the very best of our Ohio National Guard. Their impact on their teammates and our mission will not be forgotten. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families, friends and fellow service members, and our entire Guard family stands with them as we grieve together during this difficult time.”

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

A video from the Ohio National Guard command team is available at:

https://youtu.be/zKecbYFv_mw

Speaking order in the video is Maj. Gen. David B. Johnson, Ohio assistant adjutant general for Air; Chief Master Sgt. Edward N. Taylor III, Ohio Air National Guard state command chief; Command Sgt. Maj. Scott M. Barga, Ohio National Guard command senior enlisted leader; and Maj. Gen. Matthew S. Woodruff, Ohio adjutant general.

For more information, contact Heidi Griesmer, public information officer, at 614-506-3490 or heidi.m.griesmer.nfg@army.mil.

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