

Commander for a Day

Target Audience: CGOs and Junior Enlisted

Purpose	To provide wing commanders a tool to professionally develop their junior Airmen.
Description	Wing commanders select junior or newly assigned Airmen to shadow him/her for a day. The day should be well planned ahead of time in order to provide a breadth of experience for the Airmen yet engineered to show a typical, not exaggerated day.
Employ	What you would do if you were a commander for a day? Would you make any changes?

The goal of Commander for a Day is to give junior officer and enlisted personnel a chance to experience a typical commander's day. This gives them insight into what it takes to command. Additionally, it can be a mentoring springboard for those inspiring to serve in leadership positions.

From this experience, Airmen walk away with a better understanding of what challenges senior leaders face daily while trying to balance mission requirements and the needs of personnel.

This initiative could be used at the wing, group, squadron, or staff level. If using different levels of command, consider tiering based on the Airmen's experience level. For example, consider a junior enlisted member to shadow a squadron commander and a non-commissioned and/or company grade officer for the group or wing level commander. Another variant could include spouses or civic leaders (Honorary Commanders) participation.

This program could run on a quarterly basis and commanders determine its frequency, but the event needs to be limited to ensure it's viewed as a special event. You may consider having quarterly award winners or other highly motivated personnel as candidates for this endeavor. Recommend hosting the junior Airmen the same day in which meetings that reach across multiple organizations are held. These type of meetings demonstrate how wing agencies work together, synergistically, to accomplish the mission. The rest of the day should have events that do the same and should be representative of a typical day or events in a week. Below is a list of potential meetings that will help accomplish this objective.

- Wing Standup and/or Wing Staff meeting
- Community Action Information Board (CAIB)
- Finance Management Review Board (FMRB)
- Installation Deployment Officer readiness & deployments briefing (check security access)
- Status of Training (SOT) and/or Status of Discipline (ensure JAG concurs on attendance)
- Facilities Review Board

It's key this effort reflects a typical day in the life of a commander.

**Note: If you have ideas that will make this PACESetter better or an idea for a different PACESetter, please contact us at: aetc.pace.projectmgtworkflow@us.af.mil.
