

## Script for the Oath

### **Narrator:**

“Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen.

I am [name] and I will be your narrator for this afternoon.

On behalf of the [organization and commander’s name]

I welcome all of you to the [reenlistment or promotion] ceremony for [name].

The Presiding Officer for today’s ceremony is [name and officer’s organization].

As a reminder, please silence all electronic devices.”

### **(PAUSE)**

### **Narrator: (Begin Primer to the Oath)**

“When a young man, or woman, decides that they want to serve their country as an Airman, they do so for many reasons.

But no matter the reasons,

there is one thing that unites them in everything that they will do

while a member of the United States Air Force.

It is not commonly known by the average American

that when you enter the service you raise your right hand and take an oath.

An oath is a very serious thing.

It is more than a promise, or a contract.

It is your very word.

It is a statement made from your very being.

To break an oath is to break faith with your own self.

The oath every Airman takes is not to support and defend the country, nor is it to support and defend the people.

The oath is taken to support and defend something transcendent,  
something larger, and dearer, than the country or The People.

It is an oath to support and defend the document  
that gave birth to and that expanded  
the very ideals that this country and its people enjoy.

It is the document that enunciated and enumerated  
all of our freedoms, rights and privileges as a nation.

Without it, we would be just another nation among many.

With it we have become something unique and special  
in the history of how people have been governed.

An Airman takes this oath knowing that it is not just words,  
but that someday, it may be required of them  
to give their very lives in support and defense of this document.

They take this with the requisite seriousness then,  
and countless numbers of young men and women  
have done so with great honor and with great sacrifice  
over the 239 years of our history as a nation.

The freedoms, rights and responsibilities encompassed  
in the Constitution of the United States of America  
have been threatened in the past by “enemies foreign domestic”

– our Airmen have defended it with their lives.

It is because of them that the hopes and dreams  
set down on paper in the Constitution  
have had the time and the security to continue to enliven the hopes and dreams  
of this great country.”

(PAUSE)

Narrator:

“Ladies and gentlemen, please stand while the Oath is administered.”

The Presiding Officer and member take the stage

The Oath is Administered, followed by “Pinning-on”

**“Please, raise your right hand, and repeat after me;  
I, (*state your full name*),  
having been appointed a (*rank*)  
in the United States Air Force,  
do solemnly swear (*or affirm*)  
that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States  
against all enemies, foreign and domestic  
that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same  
that I take this obligation freely,  
without any mental reservations or purpose of evasion  
and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office  
upon which I am about to enter.  
So help me God.”**

(or) The Enlisted Oath

**“Please raise your right hand, and repeat after me;  
I, (*state your full name*),  
do solemnly swear (*or affirm*)  
that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States  
against all enemies, foreign and domestic;  
that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same;  
and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States  
and the orders of the officers appointed over me,  
according to regulations  
and the Uniform Code of Military Justice.  
So help me God.”**

Narrator: Initiate Clapping / Congratulations / Closing Remarks