



# BIOGRAPHY

## Major General Sandra E. Finan, USAF (Retired)

Retired U.S. Air Force Major General Sandra E. Finan is an independent consultant who serves as a member of the Civil Air Patrol's Board of Governors (BoG).

As CAP's top governing body, the 11-member BoG consists of four Air Force appointees, three members appointed jointly by the Secretary of the Air Force and CAP's national commander, and four members-at-large selected by CAP's Senior Advisory Group. The BoG moves CAP forward through collective decision-making to generate strategic policies, plans, and programs designed to guide it both today and tomorrow. It is assisted by CAP's National Commander and Chief Executive Officer, the organization's Chief Operating Officer and the CAP-U.S. Air Force Commander, who act as advisers.



General Finan joined the BoG in October 2017, shortly after retiring as the Deputy Chief Information Officer for Command, Control, Communications and Computers (C4) and Information Infrastructure Capabilities, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Pentagon, Washington D.C. In this capacity, she provided expertise and broad guidance on issues relating to C4&IIC in order to achieve and maintain information dominance for the Department. She also managed efforts defining DoD policies and strategies for design, architecture, interoperability standards, capability development, and sustainment of critical C2 and communications for nuclear and non-nuclear strategic strike and National Leadership Command Capabilities.

General Finan entered the Air National Guard in 1982 as an enlisted cryptographic equipment repairperson. She received her Air Force commission in 1985 as a distinguished graduate of Officer Training School. She has served in a variety of space and nuclear assignments in missile crew operations; training and evaluations; satellite command and control; and satellite operations. The general has held senior staff assignments as the Air Force Global Strike Command Inspector General and the Air Force Space Command Director of Nuclear Operations.

Her commands included a space operations squadron, a missile wing and a center. General Finan has deployed to the Combined Air Operations Center in Southwest Asia as the Director of Space Forces in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. Previously, she was the Commander of the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center.

She is a graduate of California State University, San Bernardino. She also has Masters' degrees from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles (Systems Management), as well as the Naval Command and Staff College, Newport, Rhode Island (National Defense and Strategic Studies), and the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base (Strategic Studies). In addition, she was a 2006 National Security Fellow at Syracuse University, New York.

General Finan awards include the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Combat Readiness Medal, Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal with "N" Device, and the National Nuclear Security Administration Gold Medal for exceptional performance.

She is married to Charles Finan, who is also a retired Air Force Missileer.

*Current as of 15 March 2018.*