



BIOGRAPHY

Retired U.S. Air Force Col. Don Kang

Retired U.S. Air Force Col. Don Kang is a U.S. Department of Defense industry executive who serves as a member of the Civil Air Patrol Board of Governors.

As CAP's top governing body, the 11-member board consists of four U.S. Air Force appointees, three members appointed jointly by the secretary of the Air Force and CAP's national commander/CEO, and four members-at-large selected by CAP's Senior Advisory Group. The board 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/CEO, the organization's chief operating officer and the CAP-U.S. Air Force (CAP-USAF) commander, who act as advisers.



Kang joined the board as an appointee of the secretary of the Air Force in October 2021. He is director, Air Force Programs, in the U.S. Department of Defense Customer Requirements & Advocacy organization in BAE Systems' Arlington Plaza, Virginia, office. He is responsible for Air Force programs and business development in Washington, D.C., for the company's Electronics Systems Product Sector.

Kang joined BAE Systems in 2020 after a 23-year career in the Air Force. He is an accomplished pilot with over 3,600 flying hours in F-16s and Boeing 737s. A decorated combat veteran, he led the initial strikes of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003. He is a graduate of the Air Force Fighter Weapons School. He is also an airline pilot for American Airlines.

Multiple assignments on the Headquarters Air Staff enabled Kang to develop board expertise in Department of Defense planning, policy, and budget preparation. As a senior adviser for the assistant secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, he guided policy and legislation to increase warfighter operational readiness. He also led staff efforts for pilot retention and public/private partnerships for pilot training innovation. As deputy director of the Plans, Programs, and Requirements Directorate, he resourced \$10 billion for the Air National Guard's Combat, Mobility, Space, and Command, Control, Communications, Computers Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) forces.

Kang is a graduate of the Air Force Academy and has post-graduate degrees from Embry-Riddle in management, the University of Texas San Antonio in business administration, and the Air War College in national security strategy.

His professional affiliations include Civil Air Patrol, the Air Force Association, the Association of Old Crows, Air Force Academy Association of Graduates, Military Officers Association of America, and Allied Pilots Association.