



**PRESS RELEASE  
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**Alaska National Guard**  
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By Tech. Sgt. N. Alicia Halla

**Change of command at JBER brings home a 20-year member of the Alaska Air National Guard**

**JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska** - One of the nation's largest and busiest Air National Guard wings has a new leader.

The 176th Wing, based at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, welcomed their new commander, Col. Darrin E. Slaten, before a full assembly here March 3.

It is Slaten's third stint with the wing. Originally a pilot in the U.S. Army, he joined the Alaska Air National Guard in 1999 and was a HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter pilot for 10 years with the wing's famed 210th Rescue Squadron. He was with the 176th Wing again from 2014-2015 to lead the wing's 176th Operations Group.

Since 2015, Slaten has served at the national level at National Guard Bureau headquarters in Washington, D.C. As commander of the 176th Wing, Col. Slaten will be responsible for wing's 1,500 members and their ongoing missions.

"It is tremendously gratifying to return to Alaska to serve with the men and women of the 176th Wing," Slaten said. "My priority will be to ensure that the Airmen are ready and able to meet America's needs, whether here in Alaska or anywhere in the world."

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**PHOTOS**

1. **Attached pdf** includes story and a small selection of low-resolution photos for viewing on screen.
2. **DVIDS link** includes story and selected full-resolution photos. (Primarily for media, DVIDS is accessible from .mil computers.) <https://www.dvidshub.net/search?q=176th+wing&view=grid>



Col. Scott Coniglio, Vice Wing Commander of the 176th Wing, Alaska Air National Guard, stands at parade rest at a wing change of command ceremony on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK, March 3, 2018. Col. Steven deMilliano, the outgoing 176th Wing commander, relinquished control of the wing to the incoming commander, Col. Darrin E. Slaten. A former rescue helicopter pilot with the wing's 210th Rescue Squadron, Slaten also served as commander of the wing's Operations Group from 2014-2015. He returns to serve as commander of one of America's largest and busiest Air Guard wings. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Edward Eagerton/released)



Col. Steven deMilliano, the outgoing commander of the 176th Wing, Alaska Air National Guard, gives a speech at a change of command ceremony on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK, March 3, 2018. Col. deMilliano relinquished control of the wing to the incoming commander, Col. Darrin E. Slaten. A former rescue helicopter pilot with the wing's 210th Rescue Squadron, Slaten also served as commander of the wing's Operations Group from 2014-2015. He returns to serve as commander of one of America's largest and busiest Air Guard wings. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Edward Eagerton/released)

