

PATRICIA MULCAHY, COLONEL, USA, RET.

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Colonel (retired) Patricia Mulcahy is an accomplished human resources leader and senior executive with a career that spans over 40 years as an Army officer and a civil servant. In her culminating assignment with the Department of the Air Force, Pat was the first Chief Human Capital Officer of the newest military service – the U.S. Space Force. She was responsible for leading the creation of the Space Force’s first comprehensive human capital strategy to include establishing core values, talent management goals, uniform design, motto, logo and conducting the most extensive transfer plan for military members since the Air Force was established in 1947.



Pat was commissioned into the Army from the Siena College Reserve Officer Training Corps program. She served at every level in the field of military personnel management and personnel service support including command of a company at Fort Devens and in Germany; a battalion at Fort Stewart; and a brigade in 18th Airborne Corps that deployed to Iraq, as well as key staff assignments as the G-1, 3rd Infantry Division; XO, Army G-1; and J-1, European Command. Following her retirement from the Army in 2009, Pat served as a federal civilian employee as well as a member of the Senior Executive Service in several military personnel policy positions in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to include the Director of Officer and Enlisted Personnel Management. Pat also served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Force Management Integration.

Pat’s education includes a Bachelor of Science in communications from the State University of New York at Albany and master’s degrees in National Security Strategy from the Command and General Staff College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Her awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, parachutist badge, Office of the Secretary of Defense Medal of Exceptional Civilian Service, and the Air Force Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service. She currently serves as a Senior Adjunct for the RAND Corporation. Pat is married, has two adult children, and resides in Northern Virginia.