

# The Military Oath of Office

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## I (FULL NAME)

All that signifies my individuality. A personal reference to no one else, which implies that I accept full responsibility for my actions.

## HAVING BEEN APPOINTED

An historical event signifying the accomplishment of some requisite evaluation and/or training. An act conferred by a ruling authority.

## A CADET (2Lt/Regular Officer/Permanent Professor . . .)

A position of esteem, respect, privilege, and reward that carries with it professional responsibility.

## IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

A branch of our nation's military that has a unique role to play in military operations and defense of American values and interests.

## DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR

An oath to be taken seriously. One to which I offer my full allegiance.

## THAT I WILL

An active call. One that demands my energy, my time, and if necessary, my life.

## SUPPORT AND DEFEND

A directed call. My activity is to be both offensive and defensive.

## THE CONSTITUTION

Not the parchment, but the principles—the ideal of liberty for all men and women.

## OF THE UNITED STATES

It isn't just anybody's idea. It is ours! Tried by fire and found to be genuine, lasting, and valuable.

## AGAINST ALL ENEMIES

There is inherent risk involved in my work. It is a call to arms and a call to sacrifice. The stakes are high. It is life we are supporting and defending and it is life that it may cost—whether supremely or on a moment-by-moment routine basis.

## FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

No matter the foe we are ready, even if he arises among us.

## THAT I WILL BEAR TRUE FAITH AND ALLEGIANCE TO THE SAME

My complete loyalty—my heart—is tied up in this commitment.

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**THAT I TAKE THIS OBLIGATION FREELY**

An active decision on my part, delegated to no other, mine alone to make. Weighing the costs, in liberty I choose.

**WITHOUT ANY MENTAL RESERVATIONS  
OR PURPOSE OF EVASION**

My pledge is not ill-advised, half-hearted, or deceptive.

**AND THAT I WILL WELL AND  
FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE**

A commitment to excellence.

**THE DUTIES OF THE OFFICE  
UPON WHICH I AM ABOUT TO ENTER**

All the duties, not just the pleasant or rewarding ones, remembering that the value of true service comes not in the job you get but the job you do.

**SO HELP ME GOD**

My allegiance can go no higher.