



Langley Research Center
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Loretta A. Kelemen
Director, Safety and Mission Assurance Office



Mrs. Loretta Kelemen serves as the Director of the Safety and Mission Assurance Office (SMAO) at NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA. As Director for SMAO, Mrs. Kelemen is responsible for leading an organization of safety professionals implementing systems safety, reliability, and quality assurance to ensure Center mission success, while protecting the safety and health of all Center employees, and physical facilities. Mrs. Kelemen also serves as the Senior Safety, Health/Medical, and Mission Assurance Official, to include serving as the Safety and Mission Assurance Technical Authority. Prior to her current assignment, Mrs. Kelemen served as Director of the Center Operations Directorate (COD) at NASA Langley Research Center from Dec 2015 to Dec 2023. As Director for COD, Mrs. Kelemen led and oversaw the Center's integrated infrastructure management, research support, and center operations services. Services provided included export control, facility engineering and maintenance, security, environmental, logistics, emergency response, real property and space utilization, master planning, and utilities and energy management.

Mrs. Kelemen began her Aerospace career in 1988 when she was commissioned in the United States Air Force. She served 23 years and retired as a Colonel in 2012. During her Air Force Career, she held varied operational positions including satellite command and control, information operations, and all aspects of DoD, civil, and commercial space lift operations. Mrs. Kelemen held multiple command and key strategic staff positions at HQ US Space Command and Air Staff HQ, Pentagon. Her USAF assignments included Chief of Safety for the 45th Space Wing, covering all ground, system, flight, space launch and weapons safety requirements of both Patrick AFB and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Her last assignment was as the Mission Support Group Commander for the 45th Space Wing. In this capacity, she was responsible for \$157M annual budget providing for program, facility, and housing management, facility construction, environmental services, fire rescue, food service operations, program planning, morale and recreation, base security, logistics, contracting activities, and facility operations and maintenance of both Patrick AFB and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. She led 1,750 military, civilian, and contractor personnel across six Squadrons and seven major contracts, providing support for range and space launch operations enabling national space lift activities for DOD, civil and commercial Atlas, Delta, SpaceX, Navy, and NASA space launch vehicles. Following her AF career, Mrs. Kelemen worked for a Defense Contractor as their Vice President of Air Force Support from Oct 2012 to Dec 2015.

Mrs. Kelemen earned a bachelor's degree in computer science from Valdosta State College in 1988; a master's degree in Space Operations from the Air Force Institute of Technology, Engineering Department in 1994; a master's degree in military Operational Art and Science from Air University in 2002; and a master's degree in strategic studies from Air University in 2008. Mrs. Kelemen lives in Poquoson, VA, with her husband Vince and their two children.