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FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



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CLOSE AIR SUPPORT EXECUTION WITH NON-JOINT TERMINAL ATTACK CONTROLLER PERSONNEL

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In certain circumstances, the ground commander might require air support when a [joint terminal attack controller](#) (JTAC) or [forward air controller \(airborne\)](#) (FAC[A]) is not available, or is no longer able to provide assistance, but detailed integration and synchronization with friendly forces fire and movement is still required. Aircrews executing [close air support](#) (CAS) under these circumstances bear increased responsibility for the detailed integration and synchronization required to minimize friendly fire and collateral damage, tasks normally done by a JTAC or FAC(A). Non-JTAC personnel should advise the aircrew they are not a JTAC. In these circumstances, CAS aircrew should assist non-JTAC-qualified personnel or units to the greatest extent possible to bring fires to bear.

Due to the complexity of air support, the ground commander must consider the increased risk of friendly fire and collateral damage when using personnel who are not JTAC or FAC(A) qualified. The requester must alert their command element when a JTAC or FAC(A) is unavailable to conduct Type 1, 2, or 3 control. If the maneuver commander accepts the risk, the request is forwarded to the CAS controlling agency. This information will alert the CAS controlling agency (e.g., [air support operations center](#); [direct air support center](#); [air operations center](#)) that aircrews will be working with non-JTAC personnel. See Air Force Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTP) 3-2.6, [Multi-Service TTP for Joint Application of Firepower \(JFIRE\)](#), for additional details.