## **CAPTAIN BENJAMIN D HOWELL**

## AFSC: 11M3F, Pilot

Captain Benjamin Howell is a KC-135 pilot assigned to the 161<sup>st</sup> Air Refueling Wing, Phoenix, Arizona Air National Guard. Over the last year he has taken on the role of Flight Safety Officer at the 161st Air Refueling Wing and proactively worked towards maintaining and improving the safety standards of both the flying Squadron and the Wing.

Captain Howell attended Arizona State University at the main campus in Tempe. He enlisted as a crew chief in the 161<sup>st</sup> ARW in 2004 and served as a traditional guardsman while attending ASU as a full time student.

After graduating, he commissioned as pilot in the 106<sup>th</sup> Rescue Wing, Gabreski field, Long Island, New York. After serving 4 years as a HC-130 combat search and rescue pilot with the New



York Air National Guard, Captain Howell moved back to Arizona to fly with the 161<sup>st</sup>. He was a distinguished graduate of the KC-135 Pilot initial qualification course at Altus AFB, Oklahoma. He also recently completed Aircraft Commander Upgrade training at Altus. He has served multiple deployments and temporary duties worldwide, including multiple deployments to the Middle East and a search and rescue deployment to the Horn of Africa.

Captain Howell currently resides in Mesa, Arizona with his wife Chantal, sons, Jett and Tate, and daughters, Eden and Aviv.