



Official Description of the Group III Emblem

The Group III emblem was designed in accordance with Air Force Instruction AFI 84-105. Group and wing emblems are shield-shaped, while squadron emblems are on a disc. The heraldic blazon (the unique language used to describe heraldic emblems) is as follows:

On a shield sable with a diminutive border or, the Texas state flag in the outline of the state of Texas proper, with a Roman numeral III gules in the field argent. On upper sinister quadrant, the Air Force emblem argent, on lower dexter quadrant a triangle argent with a three-bladed propeller gules. Motto: Tertia Semper Primoris (Third [Group] Always First).

Significance of the Emblem: *The focal point of the emblem is the State of Texas which acknowledges Group III as a part of the Texas Wing and that our volunteers support the great State of Texas. As with the flag of the United States, the blue stands for loyalty, the white represents purity, and the red is for bravery, all traits exhibited by our volunteer members on a regular basis. The five points of the Lone Star represent the characteristics of a good citizen, which are fortitude, loyalty, righteousness, prudence, and broadmindedness. The Roman numeral three is the official Group designation and is positioned in North Texas near the location of the Group headquarters.*

Within the black background are the symbols of the United States Air Force and the Civil Air Patrol showing the partnership that exists both by congressional order and by virtue of the great working relationship that we enjoy. The black background represents the night sky that our volunteers often work within providing support. The entire patch is surrounded in gold representing the purity of our intent to serve our fellow man through volunteerism.

Finally, the motto "Tertia Semper Primoris" is Latin and translates to "Third Always First". This motto puts forth the Group III ideal to always strive for excellence in all that we do. Being first is not intended to denote winning but rather to lead the way.

The emblem design was co-authored by 1st Lt (now Lt Col) Charles E. Corway and Capt (now Lt Col) Arthur E. Woodgate. The finishing touches were the result of a collaborative effort by a Group III team.