

Melissa Lineberger is the Director of the Colorado Center of Excellence for Advanced Technology Aerial Firefighting (CoE). She is a licensed Colorado attorney who graduated cum laude from Lewis and Clark Law School in May 2012. During law school, worked at an employment law firm and volunteered with a community organizing group to reform housing policy in Oregon. In 2013, she started working for the Division of Fire Prevention and Control as a policy analyst.

Before her appointment as the CoE's Director, she worked as the Interim Director. In this role, she was tasked with organizing diverse stakeholders into a steering committee to help guide the stand-up process. She worked with those stakeholders to craft the CoE's mission and vision statements, organizational chart, and process flowchart. Melissa became the permanent Director of the CoE in May 2015, after which she set up the office at the Rifle Garfield County Airport and hired the CoE's seven additional staff members. She enjoys her role as the CoE's Director in which she supports the members of the Center as they work together to make the organization's vision a reality.