



# 6th Battalion

United States Military Entrance Processing Command  
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## Lieutenant Colonel Maria Elizabeth Sanchez

*United States Army*

Lieutenant Colonel Maria Elizabeth Sanchez is the commander of 6th Battalion and Chicago Military Entrance Processing Station and supports the USMEPCOM mission of evaluating applicants by applying Department of Defense standards in processing and determining eligibility for military service.

She enlisted in the United States Army at Phoenix MEPS and received her commission through Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

While enlisted, she served as photo and layout specialist, 4th Psychological Operations Group (Airborne), Fort Bragg, North Carolina; squad leader, 70th Engineer Company, Fort Shafter, Hawaii; platoon sergeant, 100th Engineer Company, Fort Bragg; and instructor, Defense Mapping School, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Her commissioned assignments include platoon leader, C Battery, 5th Battalion, 52nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment (Patriot), Fort Bliss, Texas, and deployed to the United Arab Emirates; battalion human resources officer, 2nd Battalion (Assault), 25th Aviation Regiment, Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii, and deployed to Afghanistan; personnel management officer, United States Army Pacific, Fort Shafter; human resources officer, 25th Division Artillery, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; commander, San Juan MEPS, San Juan, Puerto Rico; liaison, U.S. Military Entrance Processing Command and Accessions Policy, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Washington, D.C.; and military secretariat, Joint Staff J6, Washington, D.C.

Her military education includes Advanced Individual Training as a photo and layout specialist; the Senior Tactics Instructor Course, Officer Candidate School, Basic Officer Leader Course, Air Defense Officer Basic Course, Adjutant General Officer Advanced Course, Human Resources Plans and Operations Course, Brigade Human Resources Operations Course, and Command and General Staff College.

She earned an Associate of Arts in General Studies from Fayetteville Technical Community College, North Carolina; a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish with a minor in Latin American Studies from George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia; and a Master of Arts in Human Resource Management from Webster University.

Lieutenant Colonel Sanchez' military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, three Defense Meritorious Service Medals, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, five Army Commendation Medals, nine Army Achievement Medals, and various service, unit and personal medals and ribbons.