



San Antonio

Military Entrance Processing Station
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First Sergeant Joseph R. Benavidez

United States Army

1st Sgt. Joseph R. Benavidez is the Senior Enlisted Advisor of the San Antonio 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.

He enlisted in the Army at the San Antonio MEPS in 2000.

1st Sgt. Benavidez served as a multiple launch rocket system crewmember, Alpha Battery, 6th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery, Fort Sill, Okla.; deployed to Iraq as a reconnaissance sergeant, Alpha Battery, 6th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery; training room noncommissioned officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 75th Field Artillery Brigade, Fort Sill, Okla.; investigative intern, 90th Military Police (Criminal Investigation Division), Fort Sill, Okla.; human resources noncommissioned officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 75th Field Artillery Brigade, Fort Sill, Okla.; operations noncommissioned officer, United States Army North Atlantic Treaty Organization Brigade, Heidelberg, Germany; human resources noncommissioned officer in charge, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, IIIrd Corps, Fort Cavazos, TX; personnel readiness management noncommissioned officer, IIIrd Corps, Fort Cavazos, Texas; deployed as senior human resources noncommissioned officer in charge, 595th Transportation Brigade, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait; senior human resources noncommissioned officer in charge, 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, Baumholder, Germany; senior equal opportunity advisor, Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, Presidio of Monterey, Calif.; and senior enlisted advisor, George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany.

His professional military education includes the Basic, Advanced, Senior, and Master Leader Courses, Equal Opportunity Advisors Course, Human Resources Plans and Operations Course, Heavy Equipment Transporter Course and the Unit Armorer Course. He earned an Associate of Arts in general studies from Central Texas College, Killeen, Texas and a Bachelor of Arts in liberal studies from Purdue University Global, Lafayette, Indiana.

1st Sgt. Benavidez's military awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, three Meritorious Service Medals, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, five Army Commendation Medals, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, eight Army Achievement Medals, and various unit and service medals and ribbons. He was also awarded the Colonel Robert L. Manning Achievement Medal (Adjutant General).