



St. Louis

Military Entrance Processing Station
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First Sergeant Rafael Cervantes Jr. *United States Marines*

1st Sgt. Rafael Cervantes Jr. is the senior enlisted advisor of the 11th Battalion and St. Louis 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 Marine Corps at the San Diego MEPS in 2008.

He served as Automotive Technician Specialist and Police Advisor, 2nd Battalion 3rd Marines, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii and twice deployed to Afghanistan; Recovering Service Member, Wounded Warrior Battalion West, Hawaii; Flight Clearance Supervisor, Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron, Camp Pendleton, California; Operations Chief, Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 369 and Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169, Camp Pendleton, California; Squadron Gunnery Sergeant and Training Chief, Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron, Camp Pendleton, California; Operations and Communications Chief, Marine Test and Evaluation Squadron One, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona; Training Chief, Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron One, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona; and Group Operations Chief and Group Gunnery Sergeant, Marine Aircraft Group 13, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona.

His military education includes Automotive Maintenance Technician School, Corporals Course, Marine Advisor Course, Sergeants School, Marine Aviation Operation Specialist, Advanced Airfield Management Apprentice, Staff Noncommissioned Officer Career School, Staff Noncommissioned Officer Advanced School, Aviation Tasking Order Development Course, Senior Leader Legal Course, First Sergeants Course, and 1st Sgt./ Master Sgt. Seminar course.

His military awards and decorations include the Purple Heart, four Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals with Valor, Combat Action Ribbon, and various service, unit, and personal medals and ribbons.