

Sergeant Michael Connell

Sgt Michael L. Connell – Marine Corps Information Operations Center

2020 Marine Corps Information Environment Enterprise Innovation Award

Sgt Connell graduated from Oceanside High School, Long Island, NY (2010)

He attended the following military schools: Basic Recruit training (2012); School of Infantry East (2012); Advanced Anti-Tank Missile Gunner Course (2014); Joint Fires Observer Course (2014); Psychological Operations Qualification Course (2016); Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) School (2017); Intermediate Marine Air Ground Task Force Information Operations Practitioner Course (2017); Foreign Weapons Instructor Course (2019); Civil Reconnaissance Non-Commissioned Officer Course (2020); Expeditionary Warfare Intelligence Course (2020).

Sgt Connell's previous awards to date are:

1. Navy And Marine Corps Achievement Medal (Second Award)
2. Combat Action Ribbon (Second Award)
3. Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (Third Award)
4. Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal (Second Award)
5. National Defense Service Medal
6. Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal
7. Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (Second Award)
8. Global War On Terrorism Service Medal
9. Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (Fourth Award)

Sgt Michael L. Connell served the preponderance of 2020 deployed to Northern Iraq attached to Marine Special Operations Company H (MSOC H) in support of Special Operations Task Force-North (SOTF-N) during Operation INHERENT RESOLVE. His unique innovations in the field of Information Operations at the strategic, operational, and tactical level served as a combat multiplier throughout the entire theater. His ingenious use of tactical Psychological Operations led to devastating and lasting effects on an enemy network located in the Makhmour Mountains, Northern Iraq where his own actions contributed to elimination of an estimated (19) enemy combatants.