

2022 Andrew J. Higgins Award for Acquisition Innovation and Excellence (Officer)

CWO5 Martin LopezBeltran

Chief Warrant Officer Lopez enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on May 24, 1994 and graduated recruit training at San Diego, Ca in August 1994. Upon graduation, he attended Marine Combat Training (MCT) West. After completion of MCT he was assigned to the Tank Turret Technicians course at Fort Knox, Kentucky where he finished number one in the class, obtained the MOS of 2146 and was promoted to Lance Corporal.

From February of 1995 to February 1999, Lance Corporal Lopez was assigned to 1st Tank Battalion in 29 Palms, Ca. While assigned to 1st Tank Battalion, Lance Corporal Lopez participated in various Combined Arms exercises, Steel Knight exercises, and company gunnery evolutions. While assigned to 1st Tank Bn he served as the ramp chief for Alpha, Bravo, and Delta Company. Lance Corporal Lopez was promoted to the rank of Sergeant during this tour.

In February of 1999 to February 2004, Sergeant Lopez was assigned to 4th Tank Bn, Boise Idaho for duty as part of the Inspector/Instructor staff for Charlie Company. During this tour, Sergeant Lopez was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant and participated in multiple training events to include the first Urban Combined Arms Exercise conducted aboard Fort Knox, Kentucky.

In February of 2004 Staff Sergeant Lopez was assigned to Fort Knox, Kentucky and served as an instructor for the M1A1 Tank Turret Technicians course. During this tour, Staff Sergeant Lopez also served as the section leader for the Hull and Turret sections and was awarded instructor of the month on several occasions. Staff Sergeant Lopez also graduated from the Martial Arts Instructor's Course.

In October of 2006, Staff Sergeant Lopez was reassigned to 1st Tank Battalion where he served as the Maintenance Chief for Bravo Co and deployed in support of OIF 6.2. During this deployment, Staff Sergeant Lopez was promoted to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant and was later selected to the Warrant Officer program.

In January of 2008 Gunnery Sergeant Lopez attended the Warrant Officer Basic Course in Quantico, VA and upon graduation he attended the Ordnance Officers Course in Aberdeen, Maryland and was assigned a new MOS of 2110 (Ground Ordnance Maintenance Officer).

In August of 2008, Warrant Officer Lopez was assigned to 3rd AA BN, Delta Co, 29 Palms, Ca. Here he served as the Company Executive Officer, Family Readiness Officer, Maintenance Officer, and Ordnance Officer.

In August of 2010 Chief Warrant Officer Lopez was reassigned to 1st Tank Battalion as the Tank Maintenance Officer where he deployed as part of the Battalion's Enabling Team responsible for preparing the Battle Space for the induction of the M1A1 Battle Tank into the Afghanistan Area of Operation.

In 2011 Chief Warrant Officer Lopez again deployed in support of (ISO) NATO Training Mission Afghanistan as the Logistics Adviser for the 2/1 KANDAK, Afghan National Civil Order Police.

In July of 2013 Chief Warrant Officer Lopez was assigned as the Battalion Maintenance Officer for Assault Amphibian School Battalion, Camp Pendleton California, where he also served as the Ordnance Officer, Maintenance Management Officer, Arms, Ammunition and Explosives Officer.

In July of 2016 Chief Warrant Officer Lopez was assigned to 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion (Highlanders). Here he served as the Battalion Maintenance Officer and was selected to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4.

From July 2017 to February 2021, Chief Warrant Officer Lopez was assigned as the Maintenance Officer for the Fires Program Management Office, Ground Combat Element Systems, Marine Corps Systems Command.

Chief Warrant Officer Lopez's Professional Military Education includes attending the SNCO Advanced Course, Formal Schools Instructor Course, Sergeant Resident course, Intermediate Maintenance Course, Ordnance Officers Course, Expeditionary Warfare School seminar, Command and Staff Blended Seminar, Martial Arts Instructors Course and the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) level II certification course, obtaining a secondary MOS of 8021. CWO5 Lopez holds an Associate Degree in Applied Science with a Major in Automotive Technology.

Chief Warrant Officer Lopez is currently assigned as the Maintenance Officer within Program Manager Advanced Amphibious Assault, Program Executive Office Land Systems, Marine Corps Systems Command.

