



LCDR (USN) Alfred V. Pena Fourteenth Coast Guard District Chaplain



LCDR Pena was born in Los Angeles, California. He graduated from UCLA (University of California, Los Angeles) with a Bachelor's in Anthropology/Archaeology. He also holds a Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Cross Cultural Studies from Fuller Theological Seminary along with a U.S. Naval War College Diploma from the College of Naval Command and Staff. LCDR Pena was commissioned as an Ensign in March 1999 under the Chaplain Candidate Officer program.

Upon completion of the Basic School and Chaplain Candidate Course in 2000, LCDR Pena served two years as a reservist while completing the remainder of his seminary education. He reported to Naval Air Station Whidbey Island Oak Harbor, Washington, in December 2002. He served as Division Officer and Staff Chaplain providing counseling and ministry support to over 10K Sailors.



In April 2006, LCDR Pena was assigned to DESTROYER SQUADRON ONE, San Diego, California, as DESRON Chaplain to fourteen ships with a combined total of 1400 Sailors. He deployed on CARAT 2006 and CARAT 2007, a series of annual bilateral military exercises the U.S. Navy performs with the armed forces of several Southeast Asia nations. He also planned and conducted over 42 Community Relations Projects in 7 Asian nations benefiting over 20K needy children.

LCDR Pena was then assigned to 7th COMMUNICATION BATTALION where he served over 700 Marines and Sailors as Battalion Chaplain from April 2008 to June 2011. Additionally, LCDR Pena served as III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE Chaplain and has deployed on PHIBLEX 2010 and COBRA GOLD 2011.

From June 2011 to June 2014 LCDR Pena was assigned to MCB S.D. Butler Okinawa, Japan where he served as MCIPAC Deputy Chaplain. He was then assigned to 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING Okinawa, Japan from April 2014 to May 2016 where he served as Deputy Wing Chaplain and Joint Exercise Support Group (JESG) Chaplain responsible for Religious Ministry and COMREL planning for COBRA GOLD 2016 where he planned and managed all COMREL and Religious Ministry provision for over 35K joint deployed U.S. military personnel and positively impacting over 50K local residents. As of May 28, 2016, LCDR Pena is currently serving as Coast Guard District 14 Chaplain in Honolulu, Hawaii.

LCDR Pena was approved by Presbytery of the Pacific for Ordination as "Minister of the Word and Sacrament" (PCUSA) on July 13, 2002, and his service of Ordination was on August 25, 2002 at his home church, the Union Church of Los Angeles of the Japanese Presbyterian Church network, with sister churches in both the United States and Japan.

LCDR Pena's personal decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2 Gold Stars), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (3 Gold Stars), and the Fleet Marine Force (FMF) Pin.