Master Gunnery Sergeant Nephtali D Ricafrente

Deputy Director, Marine Corps Senior Enlisted Academy

Master Gunnery Sergeant Ricafrente enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves and attended recruit training at MCRD San Diego, CA in September 1993. Upon completion, he received Marine Combat Training at Camp Pendleton and was then transferred to NAS Meridian, Mississippi where he received the MOS 7041 aviation operations specialist.

Master Gunnery Sergeant Ricafrente was transferred to Headquarters and Support Battery, 4th Light Anti-Aircraft Missile Battalion, Detachment (4th LAAMBn Det) Hayward, California and served in the S-3. During this time, he also served as a Recruiter Aide with Recruiting Station (RS) San Francisco, Recruiting Sub-Station (RSS) Fairfield. In June 1996, he joined the Active Reserve (AR) program as part of the Inspector and Instructor staff at 4th LAAMBn Det. While there, he served as an Administrator and earned the 0121 and 0151 MOS.

In October 1998, Master Gunnery Sergeant Ricafrente was accepted into the active component and was then transferred to Marine Corps Air Facility Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii for duty as an Aviation Operations NCO. In September 1999, Master Gunnery Sergeant Ricafrente served as a Squad Advisor with the Corporals Course on Marine Corps Base Hawaii. In 2001, he became an enlisted aircrewman and flew the C-20 (The Grey Ghost) as a Loadmaster/NATOPS Instructor supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In 2004, Master Gunnery Sergeant Ricafrente was transferred to Recruiter School in San Diego, California. Upon successful completion, he was transferred to 12th Marine Corps District, RS San Francisco, RSS Fairfield. He served as a canvassing recruiter and also as the Officer Selection Assistant in Berkeley, California. After he successfully completed recruiting duty, he was attached to Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 2, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing G-3 as the Training and Readiness SNCOIC. In April 2009, he was attached to Marine Aircraft Group 40 and deployed to Camp Leatherneck as the MAG Operations Chief and Squadron Gunnery Sergeant supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. He participated in Operation Khanjar and Operation Moshtarak.

In May 2011, Master Gunnery Sergeant Ricafrente was then transferred to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan and served as the Airfield Operations and Station Chief. He also served as the Transport Assistant NATOPS Instructor for the UC-12W supporting Exercises Balikatan, PHILEX, Cobra Gold, Key Resolve, Forager Fury, and Ulchi Freedom Guardian. He also supported Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief efforts in the Philippines.

In June 2017, Master Gunnery Sergeant Ricafrente was transferred to Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Forces Command in Norfolk, Virginia where he served as the MARFORCOM/MARFORNORTH/FMFLANT G-7 Chief/Air Tasking Control Operations Officer. He currently serves as the Deputy Director, Marine Corps Senior Enlisted Academy, Quantico, Virginia.

Master Gunnery Sergeant Ricafrente's personal awards include a Meritorious Service Medal second award, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal second award, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal forth award, and Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.