First Sergeant Matthew S. Caruso

Director, Staff Noncommissioned Officer Academy - Hawaii

Matthew Caruso was born June 12, 1986 in Bronx, New York. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in September 2004 and attended Recruit Training at MCRD Parris Island, South Carolina. Upon graduating he completed his entry level training, and earned the MOS of 3531, Motor Transport Operator.

In April 2005, Private First Class Caruso reported to 3d Transportation Support Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, Okinawa, Japan, where he served as a Motor Transport Operator and Operations Non-Commissioned Officer. In June 2006, he took part in Operation Aftershock, a humanitarian assistance/disaster relief effort in Jakarta, Indonesia following an earthquake in the region. In July 2006, he was promoted to Corporal and was transferred to Security Company, Combat Logistics Battalion 4. In August 2007, Corporal Caruso deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 06-08.2 where he served as a Security Commander.

In April 2008, Sergeant Caruso transferred to 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, California, for duty as the G-4 Movement Control Coordinator. In June 2009, Sergeant Caruso was assigned to Marine Wing Support Squadron 373 and served as the Licensing Examiner. In September 2010, Sergeant Caruso deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, where he served as the Licensing Examiner throughout the Area of Operation. During this tour, he attended the Motor Transport Noncommissioned Officer Course and Licensing Examiner's Course, graduating as the distinguished graduate.

In September 2011, Sergeant Caruso reported to Recruiting School, graduating on the Director's Honor Roll, and subsequently reported to Recruiting Sub-Station Boston for duty as a Canvassing Recruiter. In March 2014, he assumed the duties of Station Commander, where he served until the completion of his tour.

In November 2014, Staff Sergeant Caruso reported to Battery G, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division, where he served as the Motor Transport Chief. While serving with Battery G, he completed two 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit deployments, attached to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, and participated in exercises Ssang Yong in South Korea, Talisman Sabre in Australia, and Winter Mountain Exercise 2-18 in Bridgeport, California. During this tour, he attended the Motor Transport Maintenance Chief's Course and Career Course Blended Seminar, graduating as the distinguished graduate in both, and Motor Transport Operations Chief's Course, graduating as the Gung-Ho Marine.

In August 2018, Staff Sergeant Caruso reported to Marine Corps Detachment Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, for duty as a Formal School Instructor. Throughout his tour, he served as the Motor Transport Operations Chief, Instructor, Team Leader, and Chief Instructor, and earned the titles Senior and Master Instructor. In 2019, Staff Sergeant Caruso was selected as the Marine Corps Detachment Instructor of the Year, Marine Corps Motor Transport Instructor of the Year, Training Command Instructor of the Year, and National Defense Transportation Association Instructor of the Year. In September 2020, he was promoted to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant, and at the completion of his tour attended the Advanced School Seminar, graduating as the distinguished graduate.

In October 2021, Gunnery Sergeant Caruso reported to Staff Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Okinawa, Japan, where he served as a Faculty Advisor, Chief Faculty Advisor, and Staff Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of Sergeants School and Career School, and earned distinction of Master Faculty Advisor.

In February 2024, First Sergeant Caruso was promoted to his current rank and served as the Unit Senior Enlisted Leader for Company A, Marine Wing Communications Squadron 18.

In March 2025, First Sergeant Caruso transfered to Marine Corps Base Hawaii and assumed the duties of the Director of the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Hawaii, where he currently serves.

First Sergeant Caruso's decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (three gold stars in lieu of fourth award), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (one silver and one gold star in lieu of seventh award), and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal. In June 2023 he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Sports Management from American Military University and was recognized as the 2023 AMU School of Health Sciences Academic Scholar Award recipient.

First Sergeant Caruso is married to his wife, Kristan, and they have two sons, Dominic and Leonardo.