



LCDR Rolando Jesus Machado Jr. is a native of Miami Lakes, Florida. Born to Cuban exile parents, he is a 2005 graduate of Monsignor Edward Pace High School. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Political Science in 2009 from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. In 2015, he earned a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Miami.

A professional Surface Warfare Officer (SWO), Rolando served as Electrical Officer and Assistant Chief Engineer onboard USS DONALD COOK (DDG 75) where he deployed in support of Standing NATO Maritime Groups ONE and TWO executing the counterpiracy mission off the coast of Somalia. Upon completing the first Surface Navigator's Course at Surface Warfare Officers School in Newport, Rhode Island, he reported aboard USS ROSS (DDG 71) as Navigator. In 2016, the same year his ship earned the Battle "E" Award, he reported aboard USS CURTIS WILBUR (DDG 54) forward-deployed to Yokosuka, Japan as Chief Engineer. During this 22-month tour, he completed three maintenance availabilities and the entire training cycle, ensuring delivery of an Engineering Department fully certified to operate safely at sea. As Tactical Action Officer, he executed operations in the Sea of Japan and East China Sea across a multitude of warfare areas. He will assume duties in April 2019 as Chief Engineer of USS VICKSBURG (CG 69) currently in a modernization availability out in Norfolk, Virginia.

Ashore, Rolando served as Officer-in-Charge, Officer Recruiter, and Blue and Gold Officer for Division 7, Navy Recruiting District Miami, out of San Juan, Puerto Rico, responsible for 6 offices and 25 Sailors in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. As an Officer Recruiter, he submitted 33 officer applications resulting in 18 commissions, including 6 fellow SWOs, with 94.4% of his applicants meeting one or more diversity metric. While on recruiting duty, he went above the call of duty, by submitting 2 point papers and publishing several articles on recommendations to further Hispanic officer recruiting efforts, assisted ANSO in identifying and awarding 3 NROTC Immediate Scholarships to highly competitive candidates (2 of 3 accepted), and was critical in the first university application for the establishment of a Navy ROTC Unit in Puerto Rico. He continues to mentor the current and future officers he recruited.

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