

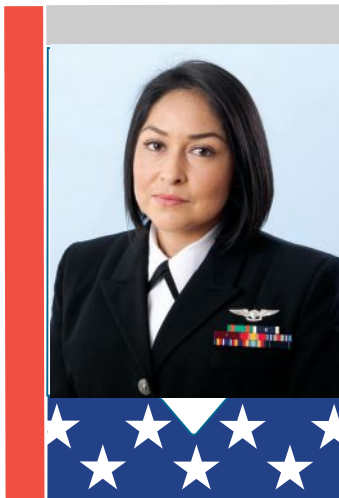


**Maritza Carillo (Civ),
United States Marine Corps**

Born in Michoacan, Mexico, Maritza Carillo grew up in Yakima, Washington. She attended schools in Yakima and Selah. In June 2003, Carrillo enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps as a Supply Administration/Warehouse Clerk. In November, 2007, she began her federal service career as civilian employee with the Facilities Maintenance Branch at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center. In April 2015, she was promoted to Financial Management Analyst.

The first in her family to join the service, her family was very surprised when she decided to join because that meant she would be apart from them. Today, she remains strong and committed to her decision.

“I consider that the best part of my job is that we are always learning from others and that also gives me the opportunity to show the new generation what I know from my experiences,” says the proud mother who teaches her daughters the values and principles she learned from family, the Marine Corps, and service to the nation. “I have learned through the years that I am a capable person that I can accomplish anything that I set my mind to it. Applying the leadership traits that I learned from the Marine Corps had helped me on my personal and professional life.”



**Petty Officer Second Class
Evelin-Yanet R. Garcia,
United States Navy**

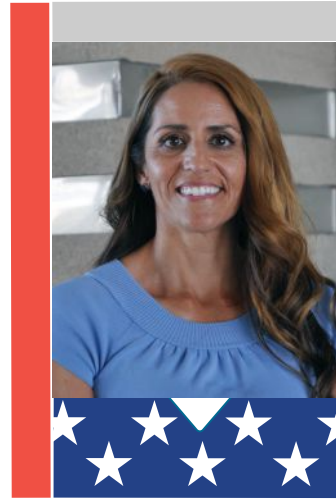
“I decided to join the military because the idea always intrigued me, but it never seemed to be the right time,” shares LN2(AW) Evelin Yanet Garcia of her career beginnings.

Born in Salinas, California, Garcia earned her Associate of Arts degree in Business Administration. After earning her degree and entering the nonprofit workforce, she decided to join the military in April 2009.

“The Navy has afforded me so many opportunities that might

be difficult to achieve without the military being a part of me,” she shares. “I decided to make the military my career in 2014 when I decided to reenlist for six more years. At this time, I was transitioning into my current military rate and decided to extend as much as I could. I truly enjoy being a Navy Legalman and look forward to going into work every day.”

Working in the legal field in the military has allowed Garcia to reach out to military service members and their families as a translator. “We tend to forget at times that the military is a great melting pot of different cultures and sometimes we have families that do not speak English so they feel they cannot turn to their big military family for assistance due to language barriers. I am working diligently every day to narrow that gap.”



**Belia Cook (Civ),
United States Navy**

Born in Ventura, California, Belia Cook began her career with the Navy at age 16. Starting as a student aide at Naval Surface Warfare Center, Port Hueneme, she attended Oxnard College and Ventura College before earning a Bachelor’s in Business Management and a Master’s in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix.

“After two years of starting my job; I learned all the opportunities PHD NSWC had to offer,” shares

the civilian. “My family was glad I made this career choice.”

Throughout her career she has learned that it is important to obtain a mentor and to not be afraid to speak up. “I don’t think if I had a mentor I would be where I am today. Ask for help and be assertive in learning that next position you are interested in.”

A strong-willed and strong-minded individual, she has become a Lean Six-Sigma certified and is involved in a number of leadership initiative focus groups. Cook is a community advocate and an active fitness enthusiast and has participated in six Iron Man events and more than 50 marathons and triathlons.

She has mentored and guided Latinos through achieving their career goals. She has also encouraged Latinos to live a healthy lifestyle; “I have guided them in achieving this.”

Her advice is to seek mentors, be assertive and achieve career goals they would like to achieve.



**First Lieutenant Karen
Rubin-Santos,
United States Air Force**

“I joined the military because I knew that I wanted to give back and serve our country in some way,” states 1st Lt Karen Rubin-Santos. “I have also had a passion for flying since I was little and I thought that joining the Air Force would be the perfect place for me to fulfill my dream.”

Born in Miami, Florida, Rubin-Santos was 18 years old when she committed to the Air Force.

She attended the United States Air Force Academy and was a Distinguished Graduate with Bachelor’s of Science in Political Science and Foreign Area Studies in May 2013. Selected to attend Undergraduate Pilot Training at Columbus AFB, Mississippi, where she trained in the T-6 Texan II and the T-1A Jayhawk. She earned her wings in December 2014 and is the only female FAIP and 1 of 3 female instructors at 37th Flying Training Squadron.

“Being a pilot in the Air Force, the service commitment is 10 years after graduating from the Academy. Once I started pilot training, I realized that I could totally do this for the rest of my career and that if it were to work out for my family, that I would love to serve in the Air Force for 20 years and make a career out of it.”