



## **Lieutenant Commander Roberto C. Concepcion**

### **United States Coast Guard**

### **Senior Military Mentor**

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Lt. Cmdr. Roberto Concepcion currently serves as the Maritime Safety and Security Team and Canine Program Manager at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C. The Coast Guard's response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York City inspired him to join the U.S. Coast Guard. He wanted to serve his country as a first responder to protect the nation's ports from terrorist attacks and save lives. In 2007, he earned his commission from Officer Candidate School and reported to Integrated Support Command Alameda in Alameda, California, where he managed a physical security program responsible for the security of 3,000 people at 15 tenant commands including three flag officers. In 2008, he joined the Deployable Specialized Forces where he led a contingent in the North Arabian Gulf in support of Combined Task Force 151's counter piracy mission. His team's efforts resulted in the apprehension and prosecution of 17 Somali pirates and provided security in Iraq for more than 300 tons of crude oil.



In 2012, he served as the East Central Regional Leader and Officer Programs Coordinator at U.S. Coast Guard Recruiting Command in Arlington, Virginia. He was directly responsible for the mission planning, training, and oversight of all recruiting operations spanning 16 states. Lt. Cmdr. Concepcion's exceptional performance of duty, character, and professional presence earned him a selection as a White House Social Aide in 2013. As a White House Social Aide, he was directly responsible for attending to the personal needs of visiting dignitaries and for facilitating guest interactions with the President of the United States and the First Lady. In 2015, he served as a Command Duty Officer at Rescue Sub-Center San Juan in San Juan, Puerto Rico, responsible for directing all Coast Guard response operations with 18 nations, five foreign Rescue Coordination Centers, and 25 Federal and local agencies.

Lt. Cmdr. Concepcion has extensive experience working with youth-related programs. He actively serves as a mentor for the Kappa League providing personal development training and college preparation assistance to more than 600 high school students annually. He is a 2013 Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Award Corporation (HENAAC) STEM Military Hero Awardee for his commitment to reaching young people in underserved and underrepresented communities gain exposure and access to STEM opportunities. He is also a 2019 CAPT Edward R. Williams Awardee for Excellence in Diversity due to his numerous accomplishments improving diversity and inclusion in the Coast Guard. Lt. Cmdr. Concepcion previously served as a Military Mentor (2020) for the United States Senate Youth Program, which he touts as a transformational experience that helped him grow as a leader. He desires another opportunity to serve as a Military Mentor to continue to positively influence and inspire our youth to actively engage in civic issues and public service.

Lt. Cmdr. Concepcion graduated from Palm Beach Gardens High School and earned a baseball scholarship at Alcorn State University. While at Alcorn State, he received the Dean's List academic award every semester and helped the baseball team reach the Southwestern Athletic Conference Baseball Tournament three years in a row. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication from Alcorn State University (2005), a Masters of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College (2015), and a Masters of Arts in International Relations from Salve Regina University (2016). He is married to an active-duty Coast Guard officer, and together they have three children.