

Command Sergeant Major John M. Marena

4th Ranger Training Battalion

CSM Marena is a native of Tampa, Florida and the sixth of seven children born to Richard and Christine Marena. In 2003, he enlisted in the U.S. Army as an Infantryman and is the latest family member in a line of military service that includes the American Revolution, Civil War, World War I, World War II, and Vietnam War.

He assumed responsibility of 4th Ranger Training Battalion in December 2021. Previous assignments include the 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne) in Vicenza, Italy; 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; 5th Ranger Training Battalion at Dahlonaga, Georgia; and 1st Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He has deployed five times for combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and once for disaster response in Haiti.

CSM Marena's military education includes the Sergeants Major Academy (Class 70), Ranger School, Airborne School, Jumpmaster School, Sniper School, Pathfinder School, Air Assault School, Battle Staff NCO Course, Winter Assault Climber, Summer Mountain Warfare Course, Rough Terrain Evacuation Course, and Common Faculty Development – Instructor Course. In 2022, he graduated Magna Cum Laude from The Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Science in Business.

His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (4th Award), Army Commendation Medal (with Valor), Army Commendation Medal (4th Award), Army Achievement Medal (8th Award), Valorous Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Commendation, and Army Superior Unit Award (2nd Award); decorations include the Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Ranger Tab, Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, Ram's Head Device, and parachutist badges from El Salvador, Egypt, Ireland, and Germany.

CSM Marena is an inductee into the Order of Saint Maurice (Centurion), a Distinguished Member of the 21st Infantry Regiment, and a member of the Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society.

He married his wife, Melody, in 2005 and together they are raising two children.