

MR. WILFREDO MERCADO
Deputy Chief Information Security Officer
CIO, Cyber and Security Division

PROFESSIONAL CAREER:

Mr. Wilfredo “Freddy” Mercado has held a diverse and increasingly responsible positions during his career. He started his Department of Defense career as a United States Air Force military member at Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona in October 1984. His career progression has included experience as a Lithographer Journeyman during his first 10 years in the Air Force.

Mr. Mercado then cross trained into the Computer Operator career field during his second 10 years of serving in the Air Force. In this capacity, he mastered his new career field in a short time span and as a result, Mr. Mercado was assigned to the 89th Communications Group (CG) at Andrews AFB, Maryland (1997-1999) where he served as the Andrews AFB 89th Wing Information Assurance Superintendent. Mr. Mercado’s success at the 89 CG led him to be selected for Joint Duty United States Forces Japan (USFJ) assignment as the J6 Computer Operations Superintendent (1999-2002). While assigned as the J6 Computer Operations Superintendent, he led a team comprised of military members from the multiple services to oversee the Computer Operations Support for many Senior Officials and VIPs. Mr. Mercado was then assigned to the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), Joint Staff Support Center (JSSC) at the Pentagon as the JC3 Operations Division Superintendent (2002-2004). In this capacity he managed and led a team of Military Members and contractors supporting the JSSC Global Command and Control Systems (GCCS) operations center. Mr. Mercado retired from the Air Force in 2004 while at the Pentagon and transitioned to civilian status.

After retirement from military service, Mr. Mercado worked for the Northrop Grumman (NG) Corporation as an Information Assurance (IA) Specialist supporting the Joint Deployable Intelligence Support Systems (JDISS) Program Office in Suitland, MD (2004-2005). He progressed within NG from his role as an IA Specialist, to Line Manager, and eventually to Program Manager on a half billion dollar contract supporting the DISA Joint Interoperability Test Command (JITC) (2005-2008). He managed and led a team of contractor employees supporting 72 different task orders pertaining to Interoperability and Information Assurance Testing.

Mr. Mercado accepted a position with the Knowledge Consulting Group (KCG) as a Program Manager overseeing the Information Assurance contract (2008-2010). His team supported the Counter Intelligence Field Agency (CIFA), then Defense Counterintelligence and Human Intelligence Center (DCHC), and later became DIA.

Mr. Mercado transitioned into the Federal Civilian Workforce in 2010 as an Information Assurance Subject Matter Expert. He was promoted to the DIA Northeast (NE) Region Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) where he oversaw the IA support for the NE (2010-2012). Mr. Mercado then took the role of Chief, Computer Network Defense to broaden his experience. This position transitioned into Deputy Chief, Cyber Defense for the DIA Chief Information Officer (CIO), Cyber and Enterprise Operations Division (CIO-3), Cyber Defense Branch (CIO-3D). As of December 2020 Mr. Mercado has since taken on the role as the agency Deputy Chief Information Security Officer, for the DIA Chief Information Office, Cyber and Security Division.

EDUCATION: 2007 – M.S. Technology Management, George Mason University
1998 – B.S., Management, National-Louis University

PROFESSIONAL CERTS: Computer Information System Security Professional (CISSP)
Federal Chief Information Officer Certification, GSA