RUDY G. HERNANDEZ

New Braunfels, TX | 830-515-7367 | chrisher5@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Retired United States Marine Corps officer, Naval Aviator, and aviation educator with more than 20 years of rotary-wing aviation, instruction, and leadership experience. Served as a Marine Corps flight instructor for three years, Fleet NATOPS Standardization Officer for two years, Night Systems Instructor, STAR Flight Single-Pilot IFR Program Lead, and Air Methods Designated Ground Instructor.

AVIATION QUALIFICATIONS

Commercial Rotorcraft Helicopter Pilot • Instrument Rated • Single-Pilot IFR Rotor and Fixed-Wing Experience • Marine Corps Flight Instructor • Fleet NATOPS Standardization Officer / Check Airman Equivalent • Night Systems Instructor • Designated Ground Instructor – Air Methods

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

TRAVIS COUNTY STAR FLIGHT – Senior Pilot / Single-Pilot IFR Program Lead | 2019–2022

• Recruited to transition STAR Flight into a single-pilot IFR rotary-wing operation.
• Designed and implemented both ground and flight training programs supporting the transition.
• Developed curriculum and taught instrument procedures, weather interpretation, CRM, emergency procedures, risk management, and aviation decision-making.
• Conducted in-flight instruction, standardization flights, evaluations, and recurrent training.

AIR METHODS CORPORATION – Regional Aviation Manager / Designated Ground Instructor | 2013–2019

• Oversaw pilot training, standardization, and development across 52 bases and more than 200 pilots.
• Flew and instructed in single-pilot IFR helicopter and fixed-wing operations supporting air medical missions.
• Developed and taught instruction on instrument procedures, CRM, weather decision-making, regulations, and safe execution of single-pilot operations.
• Created lesson plans, standardization materials, and evaluation criteria used throughout the region.

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS – Flight Instructor / Fleet NATOPS Standardization Officer / Night Systems Instructor | 1997–2013

• Served three years as a rotary-wing flight instructor responsible for training and evaluating student and fleet aviators.
• Served two years as Fleet NATOPS Standardization Officer, the military equivalent of a civilian check airman.
• Served as Night Systems Instructor teaching advanced night vision and low-light flight operations.
• Instructed aviators in instrument procedures, crew resource management, emergency procedures, aviation regulations, and tactical decision-making.
• Developed lesson plans, syllabi, examinations, and evaluation standards.

TEACHING & LEADERSHIP

• Extensive experience teaching in classroom, simulator, online, hybrid, one-on-one, and in-flight environments.
• Delivered formal presentations, lectures, and instructional briefings to both small groups and large audiences.
• Strong background mentoring, coaching, and building confidence in developing aviators.

EDUCATION

University of Southern California – Bachelor of Science, Finance
Marine Corps Command and Staff College
Naval Aviation Flight School