

# BENJAMIN A. BISH

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **United States Attorney's Office**

#### **Southern District of California**

*February 2016 – Present*

#### *Assistant United States Attorney*

- Currently serve as an AUSA in the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force Unit.
- Currently lead teams of investigators across multiple federal agencies in proactive investigations involving numerous federal offenses, including racketeering activity, violence committed in furtherance of racketeering activity, international and local narcotics trafficking, human trafficking, money laundering, fraud, and firearms trafficking.
- Prosecuted over 500 federal cases including violations of criminal immigration violations, human trafficking, narcotics trafficking, assaults on federal officers, bank robberies, false statements, firearms offenses, and large-scale conspiracies.
- Drafted numerous Title III Wiretap Intercept Applications, Search Warrants, Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) Applications, other investigation-related documents, indictments and other charging documents, case-dispositive motions and responses, trial documents and exhibits, and sentencing documents.

### **United States Marine Corps**

#### **Captain, Judge Advocate**

*2011 – February 2016*

#### *Special Victims Trial Counsel, Camp Pendleton, California*

- Served as lead prosecutor in over 150 cases, including 16 jury trials, 5 bench trials, and numerous contested sentencing hearings and boards of inquiry.
- Retained, prepared, and examined expert witnesses, including arguing *Daubert* hearings.
- Researched, briefed, and argued numerous case-dispositive motions.
- Managed extensive discovery in complex cases, including classified evidence.
- As the senior prosecutor on the trial team, trained Marine Corps and Air Force prosecutors on effective prosecution techniques and case management.
- Led and mentored 10 fellow Marine Corps Judge Advocates.
- Advised and assisted federal agents and Marine Investigators in criminal investigations.
- Served as the senior legal advisor to 25 Commanding Officers on criminal law matters, including the provision of legal advice on discovery disputes, expert witness issues, complex motions practice, and trial strategy.

### **Other Significant Experience**

#### *Commanding Officer, H&S Company, 1st Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division*

- Led, trained, mentored, supervised, and evaluated 204 Marines and Sailors to accomplish effective support to the Battalion.
- Developed and supervised the execution of comprehensive training programs in preparation for future deployments in support of, and assistance for Marine Reconnaissance forces.
- Ensured accountability and readiness of over \$5,000,000 in specialized weapons, optics and equipment.
- Personally and professionally oversaw the physical training, professional military education, and occupational specialty training of the Marines and Sailors in the unit.
- Ensured the highest level of good order and discipline within the Company.
- Supervised and ensured the welfare of all Marines, Sailors, and their families.

#### *Battalion Judge Advocate, U.S. Navy Ship, USS AMERICA*

- Deployed as a Legal Advisor to a unit of 280 U.S. Marines and Sailors.
- Provided comprehensive legal advice to a fleet admiral, a Battalion Commander, and their staff members throughout 3 specialized military operations, 6 Head of State Meetings, and 5 port visits in Colombia, Cuba, Brazil, Chile, and Peru.

- Advised on international law issues, including the applicability of the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols, Rules of Engagement, Status of Forces Agreements, Law of the Sea, other international treaties and agreements, and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief laws and regulations.
- Created and led a task force charged with responding to international incidents involving Marines and Sailors.
- Created policies and directives governing the conduct of Marines and Sailors aboard the USS AMERICA and in foreign countries.
- Provided legal advice to Marines and Sailors, including executing powers of attorney and counseling on family law, Veterans Affairs benefits, Service Members Civil Relief Act protections, and U.S. Customs laws.
- Instructed and provided guidance to 54 senior Marines and Sailors on proper protocol for handling criminal allegations and investigations.
- Provided the Battalion Commander advice on charging and the conduct of 7 criminal proceedings.
- Advised the Battalion Commander and his staff on ethics regulations, including the acceptance of gifts and the proper use of government funds for operations in foreign countries.

## **ACADEMICS AND AWARDS**

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### **Atlanta's John Marshall Law School, Atlanta, Georgia**

*August 2008 – May 2011*

Juris Doctor, *cum laude* (Top 5%)

- Executive Articles Editor, Atlanta's John Marshall Law Journal, 2010-2011.
- Moot Court Board Member, 2009-2011.
- Trial Advocacy Team Member, 2010-2011.
- Research Assistant for 2 professors, 2009-2011.
- Exemplary Peer Mentor Award, 2009-2011.
- Exceptional Academic Achievement Scholarship Recipient, 2009-2011.
- Atlanta's John Marshall Law School Outstanding Graduate Award, 2011.
- Volunteer, Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation's Domestic Violence Project, 2011.

### **Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia**

*August 2002 – May 2007*

Bachelor of Arts

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND AWARDS**

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### **U.S. Naval Justice School, Newport, Rhode Island**

*October – December 2012*

- Comprehensive legal training course focused on advocacy, international law, administrative law, domestic law, and criminal law.
- Graduated 2nd overall.
- Naval Justice School Leadership Award.
- Naval Justice School Trial Advocacy Skills Award.

### **Marine Corps Officer Training, Quantico, Virginia** *May – August 2008; March – September 2012*

- Completed over 2,000 hours of intensive instruction and exercises focused on leadership, management, tactics, and weapons, with emphasis on the skills and responsibilities required of a leader in combat.
- Appointed to the Commanding General's Honor Roll.
- Graduated in the top 3% of the class.

## **RESEARCH ASSISTANCE**

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- Research Assistant to Professor Jonathan A. Rapping, Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. *National Crisis, National Neglect: Realizing Justice Through Transformative Change*, 13 U. Pa. J. L. & Soc. Change 331 (2009).
- Research Assistant to Professor Browning Jeffries, Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. *Shareholder Access to Corporate Books and Records: The Abrogation Debate*, 59 Drake L. Rev. 1087 (2011).
- Research Assistant to Major General Vaughn A. Ary, U.S. Marine Corps. *Brief to the Independent Review Panel to Study the Judge Advocate Requirements of the Department of the Navy* (Sept. 1, 2010) (statement by Major General Vaughn A. Ary, Staff Judge Advocate to the Commandant of the Marine Corps).

## **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND LICENSES**

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- Member of the Bar of the Georgia Supreme Court
- Member of the Bar of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit
- Member of the American Bar Association