

SPACE AND MISSILE EMPLOYEE RECIPIENT OF WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

By Sam Rousso, DCMA Public Affairs



Chris Marquez, Defense Contract Management Agency Space and Missile Systems executive assistant, is one of those quiet people who gets a lot done behind the scenes and revels in the result of her hard work yet never seeks to be noticed.

Her first name is Elsa, but everyone calls her Chris. Whatever you call her, Ms. Marquez, Defense Contract Management Agency Space and Missile Systems executive assistant, is one of those quiet people who gets a lot done behind the scenes and revels in the result of her hard work yet never seeks to be noticed.

Imagine her surprise when she was notified that she was the winner of the National Image Inc. Woman of the Year Award.

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National Image is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to excellence in public service. Its basic objectives are equity in employment, education and civil rights for Hispanic Americans. Membership within the organization is open to everyone who supports its purpose. The Defense Department in general, and DCMA in particular, have strong ties and associations with the organization.

Patricia Kirk-McAlpine, DCMA Space and Missile Systems director, said she nominated Marquez for her excellence in a demanding and exacting job. But, more particularly, she said she nominated her for what she does above and beyond her duties.

Quoting from the nomination, Marquez “is actively engaged within her own family as a mentor and historian of the rich Hispanic culture as well as in our work environment

and the community. Being the youngest of six siblings, Chris personally takes on the responsibility to keeping the family beliefs, cultural traditions, teachings and of her parents’ family values alive. She is especially concerned that the next generation — her nieces and nephews — are also educated and the rich heritage of her cultural is passed down to the next generation. She currently tutors her 8-year-old niece to ensure that her niece is better prepared for the future.”

Mary Wicker, DCMA Space and Missile Systems Director’s Action Group chief, said that Marquez “is the one you can count on to think of all the significant details that can make or break the matter at hand.” Wicker says Marquez performs all her duties with “professionalism that shines the ‘can-do-attitude.’” 🍀

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