

Senior Master Sergeant Herrera is one of the most experienced experts on Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) techniques in the US Air Force. He was awarded the Air Force's combat action medal after 6 deployments with 34 direct engagements with enemy forces that included surviving 3 separate attacks by improvised explosive devices. He was awarded the Bronze Star on three different deployments for heroism and gallantry. In support of the Special Operations task forces, he led more than 300 missions to remove or diffuse explosive devices to include personally making safe 21 devices on his own. He was routinely called upon to secure an area after an attack so that wounded soldiers and civilians could be provided life-saving medical attention. As a recognized expert in ordnance disposal, he was selected time and again to train and lead partner forces that included the US Army 10th Mountain Division, Iraqi Army EOD teams, and British EOD teams. He and his team were responsible for ensuring polling places were safe and clear to ensure a free and fair election in Iraq. The work of the EOD teams is among the most dangerous and difficult of any in the US military and Senior Master Sergeant Herrera's efforts undoubtedly saved countless lives, not only American service members but partner military and indigenous civilians as well.