

Navy Capt. Cielo Almanza took command of Defense Logistics Agency San Diego, California, in June, 2022. He is a native of Kaneohe, Hawaii and a graduate of Seattle University, Seattle, Washington. He was commissioned via Officer Candidate School in September 1998. Following completion of Supply Officer Basic Qualification Course and Submarine Officer Basic Course, Almanza assumed duties as the supply officer onboard the USS Louisville (SSN 724) in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, earning the Supply Blue "E." His second assignment at sea was on USS Peleliu (LHA 5) in San Diego, California. There he served as the aviation support division officer and readiness officer. He completed a western Pacific deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



Almanza's shore assignments include naval acquisition and contracting officer at Fleet & Industrial Supply Center, San Diego, California, Naval Supply Systems Command Logistics Operations Center liaison officer to Commander U.S. Pacific Fleet, Pearl Harbor Hawaii, senior contracting officer for Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Arabian Peninsula at Joint Base Balad, Iraq and deputy for logistics directorate of Special Operations Command, Pacific at Camp H.M. Smith in Hawaii, Director, supply corps officer community management (BUPERS-316) in Millington, Tennessee, commanding officer, Naval Special Warfare Group 1 Logistics Support Unit, deputy commodore/vice commander and Commander Task Force Five Three/ Military Sealift Command Central and his most recent assignment, deputy chief of staff, Naval Special Warfare Command, San Diego, California.

Almanza has a Master of Operations Research from the Naval Postgraduate School where he was a Military Operations Research Society/Tisdale award finalist. He is also a graduate of the Advanced Program in Logistics and Technology at the Keenan-Flagler School of Business at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit (1), Defense Meritorious Service Medal (2), Meritorious Service Medal (2), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals (5), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals (4) as well as various unit and service awards. He is also the first Navy recipient of the Gen. William G.T. Tuttle Award for Business Acumen in Defense and Government. He is joint qualified and a member of the Defense Acquisition Corps. He is entitled to wear the Submarine Supply Warfare, Naval Aviation Supply Officer, and Navy Expeditionary Supply Corps Officer qualification insignia.