

Damian E. Montes
Director
CBP Canine Program



Damian E. Montes joined the Office of Training and Development as the Director, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Canine Program, on August 24, 2014. The CBP Canine Program is headquartered in El Paso, Texas. As the Canine Program Director, Mr. Montes is responsible for developing, executing and overseeing the training and support of canine resources within CBP. The Canine Program has two training delivery sites; Front Royal Virginia and El Paso, Texas.

Mr. Montes began his Federal government career in the United States Marine Corps on April 26, 1994. He graduated from the Army Military Police School in Fort McClellan, Alabama and subsequently graduated from the Department of Defense, Military Working Dog (MWD) Handlers Course in Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. His first duty station was the Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Tustin, California; as an MWD patrol/narcotic handler. In that capacity, Mr. Montes was often deployed to work jointly with legacy U.S. Customs at the Nogales and San Luis Ports of Entry. He is also a graduate of the MCAS Tustin Special Response Team and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Office Special Weapons and Tactics School #78. Duty stations included MCAS Miramar, California and MCAS Yuma, Arizona where he held positions as Canine Handler (explosive and narcotic/patrol), Trainer, Kennel Master and Coordinator of three MCAS Yuma K-9 Trials.

Director Montes began his career with the U.S. Customs Service in 2002, as a Canine Enforcement Officer stationed in Calexico, California. In April 2007, he graduated from the first OFO National Special Response Team Basic Selection Course "Class I". In December 2009, he transferred to the OFO, Operations Division, Washington, DC as the first permanent SRT National Commander.

Mr. Montes is a certified graduate of the 2013 CBP Leadership Institute.