



### **James Omans Receives Superior Civilian Service Award**

*Accomplishments Include 3 Major Land Acquisitions for Training, Environmental Stewardship*

**ARLINGTON, Va.** –Former Marine Corps Installation Command (MCICOM) employee James Omans received the Commandant's Superior Civilian Service Award on April 1. Mr. Omans, who most recently served as the Head, Real Estate and Asset Management Section, was recognized for his 21 years of achievement with the Marine Corps.

The award was presented by Major General Juan G. Ayala in a well-attended ceremony at the Pentagon conference center. It is the highest level award the Marine Corps Commandant can give a civilian employee. The citation stated that Mr. Omans "superbly led his Section while directing three major land acquisitions to enhance Marine Corps unit training for 21<sup>st</sup> Century missions."

Under his leadership, the Marine Corps acquired 454,000 acres for training, including expansions at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in 29 Palms and Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range in California, and Townsend Bombing Range in Georgia. MajGen Ayala noted Mr. Omans' ability to work with local communities and environmental groups facilitated these acquisitions.

From 1993 to 2007, Mr. Omans' efforts led to an increase of \$1 million to \$30 million in Marine Corps programmed Operations & Maintenance funds for natural and cultural and resource management. This directly contributed to the Marine Corps' reputation as a "superior land steward."

Mr. Omans recently transferred to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and Environment, and is the Director of Real Estate.

For more information, including the Marine Corps' land conservation efforts, please contact Public Affairs Officer, Marine Corps Installations Command, Rex Runyon ([rex.runyon@usmc.mil](mailto:rex.runyon@usmc.mil)).

###