

MYCAL W. ANDERS

U.S. Marine Corps Veteran | Executive Coach | Founder, Next Level Performance Consulting
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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Thunderbird-trained global leader, U.S. Marine Corps Captain, and executive coach who has built a 14-year portfolio at the intersection of leadership development, entrepreneurship, and global engagement. Commissioned through OCS, deployed to Afghanistan as a UAV Mission Commander, and currently advising executives at Netflix, AWS, and Renaissance Financial through Next Level Performance Consulting. Bestselling author, podcast host (200+ combined episodes, 1M+ downloads), and Birkman Certified Consultant applying cross-cultural fluency shaped by a childhood in Spain, the Philippines, and Okinawa.

EDUCATION

Thunderbird School of Global Management, Arizona State University Phoenix, AZ

Executive Master of Global Affairs & Management — In Progress Expected 2027

- Returning alumnus continuing graduate study with a 3.92 term GPA in Fall 2021 global affairs coursework.

Thunderbird School of Global Management, Arizona State University Phoenix, AZ

Master of Global Management Conferred Aug 2021 | GPA 3.65

- Coursework included Global Leadership & Strategy, Global Organizational Consulting, Global Entrepreneurship & Sustainable Business, Big Data in the Global Economy, and Communicating & Negotiating.
- Thunderbird Personal Leadership Development (PLD) capstone completed 2021.

Arizona State University, College of Health Solutions Phoenix, AZ

Master of Science, Exercise & Wellness May 2014

East Texas A&M University (formerly Texas A&M – Commerce) Commerce, TX

Bachelor of Science, Health & Human Performance Aug 2006

- Began undergraduate studies at the U.S. Air Force Academy; completed degree as a collegiate athlete applying leadership and team-building principles in a competitive performance environment.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Next Level Performance Consulting Phoenix, AZ

Founder & Aligned Leadership Coach Oct 2011 – Present

- Founded and scaled a veteran-owned leadership and performance consultancy; coach and advise executives, founders, and high-performers through the proprietary A.U.R.A. framework (Anchor, Understand, Release, Align).
- Coached and facilitated Aligned Leadership for executives at Netflix (2024) and led executive workshops at Amazon Web Services (2024).
- Delivered keynote for Renaissance Financial (2023) and the City of Tempe Healing Fields 9/11 Tribute (2024); returned to Thunderbird as Entrepreneurship Guest Presenter (2026).
- Ongoing Leadership Development Consultant for Custom Controls AZ; previously absorbed and rebranded CrossFit PHX — rated #1 CrossFit Gym in America by Men's Journal (2017) — averaging 77.1% annual growth 2013–2019.
- Host of the Alignment First podcast — 127 episodes since 2023 — following Feed Me Fuel Me (200+ guests, 1M+ downloads over a three-year run).
- Birkman Certified Consultant (2022) integrating behavioral data into executive development engagements.

United States Marine CorpsMCAS Yuma, AZ | Helmand Province, Afghanistan

Captain (Ret.) | Air Traffic Control Officer (MOS 7220)2007 – 2015

- Commissioned through Officer Candidate School (OCS); served on active duty 2007–2012 and in the Selected Marine Corps Reserve through 2015, honorably discharged at the rank of Captain.
- Deployed to Helmand/Sangin Province, Afghanistan as Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Mission Commander in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (2010); conducted Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance operations.
- FAA-rated Air Traffic Controller at MCAS Yuma, DET D MACS-1, MACG-38, 3D MAW; responsible for the training, readiness, and professional development of Marines under his charge.
- Assigned to Marine Corps Recruiting Command (Phoenix) in the Reserve; interviewed ROTC and Service Academy candidates and helped develop the Summer Leadership & Character Development Academy at MCB Quantico, VA.
- Decorations: Navy & Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, NATO ISAF Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal.

Gold's GymDallas, TX

Personal Trainer & Business Development2006 – 2007

- Developed client acquisition, consultative selling, and program design skills that became the foundation of later entrepreneurial work.

GLOBAL & CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

- Spent childhood overseas as a U.S. Air Force dependent stationed in Spain, the Philippines, and Okinawa, Japan — foundation for a career-long fluency with customs, cultures, and cross-border professional settings.
- Recent international travel including Peru and Tanzania; conversational Spanish.
- Deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom; conducted combined operations with NATO / ISAF partners.

SELECTED ACHIEVEMENTS & RECOGNITION

- Bestselling author — Inner Circle: Focus & Fulfillment Habits of the Enlightened (2019).
- One of the youngest African-American Eagle Scouts in the United States.
- Appointee, U.S. Air Force Academy.
- Keynote Speaker — City of Tempe Healing Fields September 11 Tribute (2024).
- Community: Sponsor of youth sports leagues across the Phoenix Metropolitan Area.

CERTIFICATIONS & CORE COMPETENCIES

Certifications: Birkman Certified Consultant (2022) • Certified Strength & Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) • FAA-Rated Air Traffic Controller (prior)

Core Competencies: Executive Coaching • Global Leadership Development • Cross-Cultural Communication • Keynote Speaking • Organizational Consulting • Entrepreneurship & P&L Ownership • Negotiation • Emotional Intelligence • Team Building

Languages: English (native) • Spanish (conversational)