

Colonel Keith Parrella

Colonel Keith A. Parrella entered the Marine Corps through the Platoon Leaders Class accession program. In December 1994, he graduated from Arizona State University with a bachelor of science in Justice Studies and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Second Lieutenant Parrella attended law school at Arizona State University College of Law where he was a member of the Law Review and the Order of the Barristers. He graduated law school *cum laude* in May 1998, and was admitted as a member of the Arizona Bar in October 1998.

After completing training at the Basic School in Quantico, Virginia and the Naval Justice School in Newport, Rhode Island, Captain Parrella reported for duty with 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, MCAS Miramar, San Diego, California. While at MCAS Miramar, Captain Parrella served as defense counsel, senior defense counsel, and senior trial counsel. In May 2002, Captain Parrella received orders to 3rd Force Service Support Group (FSSG), Okinawa, Japan. During his three years in Okinawa, Captain Parrella served as senior defense counsel and military justice officer. While in Okinawa, Captain Parrella deployed as an individual augment to 1st FSSG (Fwd) in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.2. In Iraq, Captain Parrella served as the military justice officer overseeing the prosecution of all Marine cases in Iraq from September 2004 to February 2005. He was promoted to the rank of major in January 2005.

In July 2005, Major Parrella reported to the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School in Charlottesville, Virginia, as a member of the 54th Graduate Course. He graduated in May 2006 with an LL.M. in Military Law specializing in contract and fiscal law. Major Parrella then reported to the Eastern Area Counsel Office, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina as a contingency contract and fiscal attorney. Between 2007 and 2008, Major Parrella deployed to the Regional Contracting Center, Camp Fallujah, Iraq where he provided contract and fiscal law support to II MEF (Fwd).

In July 2009, Major Parrella transferred to Marine Corps Installations East as the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate. After just 75 days, he volunteered to serve as the Judge Advocate for the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) to fill an unanticipated vacancy. In January 2010, Major Parrella deployed with the 24th MEU on board USS NASSAU in support of Operation Unified Response in Haiti and Operation Enduring Freedom in the Gulf of Aden. While deployed, Major Parrella also served as the MEU Executive Officer.

In August 2010, Major Parrella undertook the duties as Officer-in-Charge, Legal Services Support Section, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. In this capacity he supervised approximately 35 judge advocates and 40 support staff charged with providing military justice support to over 30,000 Marines and Sailors. In January 2011, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel.

In July 2012, Lieutenant Colonel Parrella assumed command of Region 8 (Central Europe), Marine Corps Embassy Security Group, Frankfurt, Germany. As Region 8's Commanding Officer, he led approximately 160 Marine Security Guards posted at 19 U.S. Embassies and

Consulates throughout central Europe and the Balkans. In July 2014, Lieutenant Colonel Parrella was selected for the Commandant of the Marine Corps' (CMC) Fellowship program in fulfillment of his top-level school requirement. As a CMC Fellow, Lieutenant Colonel Parrella worked in the Department of Justice's (DOJ) National Security Division as a Counterterrorism Prosecutor and with the Office for Overseas Prosecutorial Development Assistance and Training (OPDAT) within DOJ's Criminal Division.

In July 2015, Lieutenant Colonel Parrella assumed duties as Deputy Circuit Military Judge, Eastern Judicial Circuit, Navy/Marine Corps Trial Judiciary, located on board Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. After serving two years as a military judge, in July 2017, Lieutenant Colonel Parrella was assigned as the Staff Judge Advocate, 2nd Marine Division on board Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He was promoted to the rank of colonel in September 2017. In July 2018, Colonel Parrella commenced his current duties as the Circuit Military Judge of the Eastern Judicial Circuit, Navy/Marine Corps Trial Judiciary.

His personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal x 5, Navy & Marine Corps Commendation Medal x 2, Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and Humanitarian Service Medal.