



53RD ANNUAL SESSION
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DENTAL TECHNICIAN LEADERSHIP AWARD

Recognizing outstanding service to prosthodontics and dental laboratory profession.



RICHARD M. LOPEZ

Richard Lopez is the Director of CAD/CAM, 59th Dental Support Squadron, 59th Dental Group, 59th Medical Wing, Joint Base San Antonio, Lackland AFB, TX. In 1998, he began his Air Force career by completing dental assisting training. In 1999 he was accepted to the Air Force Dental Laboratory Technology program, graduating with honors in 2000. Following his initial skills training Richard developed his skills and knowledge to become an Air Force Dental Laboratory Journeyman. In this role he was able to fabricate prosthesis for the Air Force's only Prosthodontics Residency Program.

Mr. Lopez has worked around the globe through the Air Force, including Kadena AB, Japan where he provided laboratory services for 52 dental clinics in the Pacific Theater. He currently works for the Air Force Postgraduate Dental School's Certified Dental Laboratory, supporting multiple dental specialties including prosthodontics. He continues to be innovative with digital and hybrid workflows to educate residents, staff doctors, and technicians to provide premier quality care for the US military.