

STEPHEN DICENSO  
LIEUTENANT  
UNITED STATES NAVY

Chaplain Stephen DiCenso was born in New York City raised in New Jersey and first enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in November 1987. After completing recruit training at Parris Island, Chaplain DiCenso attended the Weather Observer School at Chanute AFB. Upon his graduation he reported to MWSS 273 in Beaufort SC. After several training deployments, including participation in Desert Shield / Storm, Chaplain DiCenso received his honorable discharge in November 1991 and began attending The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in Political Science and began work as New Jersey State Probation Officer. Over the course of nearly six years, he completed over 1,000 criminal case investigations with the Criminal Division of Cape May County. After resigning his position, Chaplain DiCenso moved to Titusville Florida and began work with the State of Florida as a Disabled Veteran's Employment Representative. In this position, Chaplain DiCenso assisted disabled veterans in all facets of their employment search. In the fall of 2005, Chaplain DiCenso moved to Columbia, SC and enrolled at Columbia International University in pursuit of a Masters of Divinity degree. While in seminary, Chaplain DiCenso completed a two year internship and served as a youth pastor until his graduation and acceptance into the Naval Chaplain Corps in January 2010. Upon graduation from the Naval Chaplain's Basic Course located in Fort Jackson, Chaplain DiCenso reported for duty with MWSS 272. While serving with MWSS 272, Chaplain DiCenso deployed in support of OEF 11-1.

Chaplain DiCenso's personal decorations include the Navy Commendation Medal, the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal and the National Defense Service Medal with one star. In addition, he is authorized to wear the Fleet Marine Force Qualified Officer insignia. Chaplain DiCenso has been ordained for ministry with the Southern Baptist Convention as well as the Evangelical Church Alliance.