

## Andy Mendez Bio

Hello, my name is Andrew D. Mendez but I go by "Andy." I was born in Wilhelmshaven, Germany in November 1969 to a German mother and U.S. serviceman father. My father was in the U.S. Army for 30 years and stationed in Germany about half that time. I lived in Germany for several years as a kid and most recently as a young adult in 1987-90 (Munich). I have tried to visit Europe (most often Germany, where my parents lived until the early 2000s) every year or two as an adult. I have studied German and my current level is A2 (upper level beginner) and I hope to get to B1 (lower level intermediate) next year. I recently got German citizenship through my mom so I am now a dual US/German national.

I have a B.S. in Finance from the University of Maryland at College Park and J.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. I am an attorney at Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann LLC in New Orleans.

I have lived and worked in New Orleans since 1999. I have been married since 1999 as well. My wife is an attorney too. I have two kids and four cats. My daughter is a junior at The University of the South in Sewanee, TN, and my son who is a junior at Ben Franklin High School. Both kids are taking German in school. My daughter did a two-week exchange program in Austria as a high school sophomore, and this year my son did a three week exchange program in Germany.

I have been a member of Deutsches Haus since around 2000 and have volunteered at Oktoberfest around half the years that I've been a member. I enjoy German culture, especially the beer and cars (I've owned numerous German cars). I like German food as well. My hobbies include watching sports (football and F1 racing, some international soccer also), working on cars, traveling, and hiking. I like sci-fi and film noir. I have a fairly vast knowledge of 80s alternative music and 80s action movies. I am a member of the Chewbacchus Mardi Gras krewe. I own Lederhosen.

I would like to serve on the Deutsches Haus Board of Directors to hopefully help the organization prosper. Thanks for your consideration.

