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## FERNANDO VELASCO

CENTER/GUARD • 6'4" • 308 lbs • COLLEGE: GEORGIA  
ACQUIRED: FREE AGENT - 2015 • NFL EXP. (NFL/TITANS): 6/4  
HOMETOWN: WRENS, GA.  
GAMES PLAYED/GAMES STARTED: 73/37 (PLAYOFFS: 2/0)



**PRO:** Fernando Velasco returned to the Titans during the 2015 offseason to provide experience and depth to the interior offensive line. The 6-foot-4-inch, 308-pounder spent the past two seasons with the Pittsburgh Steelers and Carolina Panthers, respectively. A versatile player that can line up at center or guard, the former Titans undrafted free agent appeared in all 48 games with the club from 2010-2012 with 19 starts, including getting the starting nod in all 16 games in 2012. Velasco spent the majority of his first two years with the Titans on the practice squad.

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

- In 2013, Velasco started 11 games at center for the Steelers in place of an injured Maurkice Pouncey.
- In 2012, Velasco started all 16 games for the first time in his career. He made 13 starts at center and three starts at left guard.
- In 2010, Velasco saw action in all 16 games with three starts. He made his first career NFL start at left guard at Dallas (10/10/10).
- After spending a season and a half on the practice squad, Velasco made his first regular season appearance at San Francisco on Nov. 8, 2009.

### TITANS TIDBITS:

- During the 2013 offseason, Velasco got engaged to Tieashia Odom while on a short vacation to the Cayman Islands. He proposed to his girlfriend of four years after swimming with the dolphins at Dolphin Cove.
- In 2010, Velasco started a foundation called Right C.H.O.I.C.E.S. which is an acronym for Christ Humility Opportunity Integrity Character Education and Success. The foundation sponsors a free camp for kids age 8-14 in his hometown every summer. More than 200 kids attend the camp each year.
- Velasco enjoys bowling, golfing, watching movies and playing basketball in his spare time.

### CAREER TRANSACTIONS:

- The Wrens, Ga., native was originally signed by the Titans as a rookie free agent on May 2, 2008.
- Waived on Aug. 30, 2008 and signed to the practice squad on Aug. 31, 2008.
- Re-signed as a free agent by the Titans on Jan. 12, 2009.
- Waived on Sept. 5, 2009 and signed to the practice squad on Sept. 6, 2009.
- Signed from the practice squad to the 53-man roster on Nov. 7, 2009.
- Waived on on Nov. 14, 2009 and signed to the practice squad on Nov. 17, 2009.
- Signed from the practice squad to the 53-man roster on Dec. 30, 2009.
- Released by the Titans on Aug. 31, 2013.
- Signed by the Pittsburgh Steelers as a free agent on Sept. 9, 2013.
- Signed by the Carolina Panthers as an unrestricted free agent on July 23, 2014.
- Signed by the Titans as a free agent on June 9, 2015.

### SEASON RECAPS:

**2014 (13/7 - Carolina):** Played in 13 games with seven starts for the Panthers. Started six games at right guard, including the first four contests of the season. Notched one start at left guard. Dressed but did not play in three games.

**2013 (11/11 - Pittsburgh):** Spent the 2013 offseason and training camp with the Titans before being released prior to the regular season. Joined the Steelers after Maurkice Pouncey was lost for the season with an injury in the regular season opener. Started the next 11 games at center. Was

placed on injured reserve on Nov. 30, 2013.

**2012 (16/16 - Tennessee):** Started all 16 games for the first time in his career. Saw action primarily at center (13 starts), but also lined up at left guard (three starts) at the end of the season.

- At San Diego (9/16), started at center and was a member of an offensive front that did not allow a sack on 30 pass attempts.
- Against Detroit (9/23), started at center. Was a part of an offensive line that did not allow a sack on 42 pass attempts and created time for Jake Locker to amass 378 passing yards.
- At Houston (9/30), started at center and helped open holes for Titans rushers to gain 158 yards on the ground, including 141 rushing yards for Chris Johnson.
- Against Pittsburgh (10/11), started at center and helped the Titans' offense amass 359 total yards.
- At Buffalo (10/21), started at center and opened holes for Chris Johnson to amass 195 rushing yards on just 18 carries.
- At Miami (11/11), started at center and helped open holes for Titans' rushers to gain 177 rushing yards on 37 carries.
- Against Houston (12/2), started at center. Played one snap at right tackle after Michael Roos left the game for one play in the third quarter.
- At Indianapolis (12/9), started for the first time this season at left guard.
- Against N.Y. Jets (12/17), started at left guard and helped open holes for Titans' ball carriers to gain 167 yards on the ground.

**2011 (16/0 - Tennessee):** Saw action in all 16 games for the second consecutive season. Played primarily on special teams, but did see some reserve action at center and guard.

- Against Baltimore (9/18), saw action as a reserve on special teams and at left guard when Leroy Harris left the game briefly with an injury.
- At Cleveland (10/2), played in a reserve role on special teams and at left guard when Leroy Harris left the game in the third quarter with an injury.
- Against Jacksonville (12/24), saw limited action at center after Eugene Amano briefly left the game with an injury. Played as a reserve on special teams.

**2010 (16/3 - Tennessee):** Appeared in all 16 games with three starts (one at center, two at guard) in his first full season on the 53-man roster. Made his first career start at Dallas (10/10/10).

- Against Denver (10/3), played primarily on special teams. Entered the game at left guard late in the fourth quarter when Leroy Harris exited with an injury.
- At Dallas (10/10), made his first career NFL start at left guard and helped open holes for Titans' ball carriers to gain 158 yards on the ground. Pounced on a Chris Johnson fumble late in the third quarter. Saw action at center late in the fourth quarter after Eugene Amano exited the game with an injury.
- At Houston (11/28), saw significant action at center after Eugene Amano exited the game in the second quarter with an injury.
- Against Indianapolis (12/9), entered the game at center in the fourth quarter after Eugene Amano suffered an injury.
- Against Houston (12/19), started at center and helped clear the way for Titans' rushers to gain 147 yards on the ground.
- At Kansas City (12/26), started at center and left the game briefly in the third quarter with an injury.

**2009 (1/0 - Tennessee):** Spent a total of 14 games on the practice squad and was on the 53-man roster for two games.

- At San Francisco (11/8), made NFL debut on special teams.

**2008 (0/0 - Tennessee):** Spent his entire rookie season on the Titans practice squad.

**COLLEGE:**

- Played 50 games with 26 starts at Georgia.
- As a senior (2007), started all 13 games at center and received All-SEC second-team honors.
- As a junior (2006), started all 13 games at strong-side offensive guard.
- Played 12 games in both freshman (2004) and sophomore (2005) seasons.
- Received degree in health and physical education from Georgia.

**PERSONAL:**

- Married to Tieashia and the couple splits time between Nashville and Wrens, Ga.
- Was four-year letterman as defensive tackle and offensive tackle at Jefferson County High School in Wrens, Ga. Selected to Georgia All-State team as senior.
- Also played basketball two years in high school.
- List of favorites: (movie) "Life"; (TV show) "Family Matters"; (actor) Denzel Washington; (food) fried chicken; (vacation spot) Miami; (school subject) math; (car) Cadillac Escalade; (video game) Madden NFL; and (author) Joel Osteen.
- Born Fernando Antonio Velasco on Feb. 22, 1985 in Harris, N.Y.

## FERNANDO VELASCO'S NFL STATISTICS

### REGULAR SEASON

Year	Team	GP	GS
2008	Tennessee	0	0
2009	Tennessee	1	0
2010	Tennessee	16	3
2011	Tennessee	16	0
2012	Tennessee	16	16
2013	Pittsburgh	11	11
2014	Carolina	13	7
<b>NFL Totals</b>		<b>73</b>	<b>37</b>

### PLAYOFFS

Year	Team	GP	GS
2008	Tennessee	0	0
2014	Carolina	2	0
<b>Playoff Totals</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

### Starts Breakdown:

2010 - LG 1, C 2; 2012 - C 13, LG 3; 2013 - C 11; 2014 - RG 6, LG 1