

FROM THE COMMANDER

Marines, Sailor, Civilian Marines and Families of the 12th MCD,

Congratulations on the completion of another successful quarter. As a District we continue to accomplish the mission with fewer resources, to include less vehicles and limited TAD yet, we continue to not only make our mission, but have the lowest MCRD attrition in the nation. This speaks volumes to not only the quality of men and women we are currently recruiting into the Marine Corps today, but more importantly, it reflects the dedication and hard work each and every one of you.

Throughout the remainder of the FY, we will see additional shipping cuts as a result of the draw down. Poolees will remain in the pool longer, and recruiters will have to work through the challenges of keeping those individuals motivated and prepared to go while their ship date continues to move right. Fortunately, we have superb Marines in place who are ready for this challenge.

The draw down effecting recruiting is also affecting a large number of our Marines. I am aware we have reenlistments submitted awaiting responses from Headquarters Marine Corps, and I recognize there is a high level of stress and concern associated with awaiting these responses. While the process may not be as timely as many of us would like, I am confident in the Corps' ability to ensure we are keeping the right Marines. The Marine Corps' most precious asset is, and always will be, our individuals Marines.

With spring and warm weather upon us we are moving into the time of the year where motorcycles, boats and other recreational equipment are reintroduced into our lives. I encourage you to take full advantage of your time away from the office by spending time with your friends and families and enjoying what your communities have to offer, but I ask that you do so safely and responsibly. Each and every member of the 12th MCD is a valuable member of our team. Leaders at every level need to ensure we are looking out for each other and our families.

It is our families' continued support and sacrifices that allow us to successfully perform our duties. We cannot thank them enough for what they do. It is no secret recruiting duty is a challenging assignment for our Marines, Sailor, and Civilian Marines, but we also must recognize it is especially difficult on the families who support us. We successfully completed our first District Spouses Orientation Course in March. This course provided spouses the opportunity to learn about recruiting, connect and network with other spouses, as well as receive information on resources needed when living without the support of a military installation nearby, including classes on finances, Tricare, and transitioning between schools. I encourage all spouses to ask your respective Family Readiness Volunteers about the next course, which we expect to take place in September. Taking care of those who support us is critical to our ability to accomplish our mission.

Thank you for all that you do for the 12th MCD team and continue to remain Semper Fidelis.

Semper Fidelis,



E. C. Hastings
Colonel, USMC
Commanding Officer

