

FROM THE COMMANDER

Marines, sailor, civilian Marines and families of the 12th MCD,

As we wrapped up the most successful fiscal year in the District's history we maintained our momentum with a tremendous start to this year thanks to the efforts of our outstanding Marines and civilians. We continue to lead the nation in accomplishing our important mission.



This FY we saw a moderate increase in our enlisted and officer recruiting mission, which I know we are more than prepared to absorb. Although our overall mission remains historically low, we continue to maintain the highest standards. These standards require each recruiter to put forth maximum effort to find qualified applicants. The sacrifices of our Marines and families does not go unnoticed, and it's because of the sacrifices and efforts we continue to assess prospects and candidates who have tremendous potential to serve our Corps for years to come.

In this Newsletter, we have included each recruiting station's recruiter and staff noncommissioned officer in charge of the year for FY 2014. Congratulations to each of those Marines for their impressive performance. The District's SNCOIC of the Year for FY 2014 was Master Sergeant Juan P. Oteropizarro, and the District Recruiter of the Year was Staff Sergeant Bryan T. Griffin. The District's Prior Service Recruiter of the Year was Staff Sergeant Patrick A. Peterson and the Prior Service SNCOIC of the Year was Gunnery Sergeant Nayra Y. Vargas.

Most of these Marines were recognized at their RS's 239th Marine Corps Birthday Ball in November. I was pleased to hear each celebration went well, and happy we could take time out of our hectic schedules to celebrate.

The Semper Fi All American Bowl took place in December and was once again a success. This bowl game is the biggest community relations event in the nation reaching the American public, community leaders and, most importantly for our mission, accessing many closed schools. Many recruiters were able to exploit this opening by beginning to build relations with sports teams and administrations they otherwise wouldn't have access to – outstanding job.

Looking forward, there are two family readiness events I would like to highlight. First, the district is slated to host a Spouse Orientation Course aboard the Depot March 25 through 28. This course received outstanding feedback and is open to all spouses new to recruiting duty. Additionally, for those of you with teenagers, we scheduled our second annual Teen Summit from June 10 through 14. This program includes leadership workshops, information on scholarship opportunities, volunteer work, and other events designed to better prepare our teens for life after high school. I encourage you to earmark these dates and take advantage of these opportunities for our teens and spouses. Please contact your Deputy Family Readiness Officer for more details.

I strongly encourage eligible family members to take part. Strong family units are the foundation of the dedication and effort our Marines put forth every day to build our Corps for the future. Thank you all for your continued selfless service and Happy New Year. Here's to 2015. Let's make it a great year.

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. C. Hastings".

E. C. Hastings
Colonel, USMC
Commanding Officer