COMMANDER
United States Marine Corps Forces, Central Command
Unit, Personal and Family Readiness Policy

18 November 2015

With a well-deserved reputation as the premier expeditionary "Total Force in Readiness," the Marine Corps is tailored to answer The Nation's call, at home and abroad, quickly and efficiently. Additionally, Americans expect their Marines to be ready to respond when our country is threatened; thus the message is clear – be ready, always. I believe personal accountability is the cornerstone of every successful unit and I will hold every Marine and Sailor accountable for their individual readiness and for the readiness of their families. My desired end-state for the U. S. Marine Corps Forces, Central Command (MARCENT) Unit, Personal and Family Readiness Program (UPFRP) is assisting families to be capable of thriving during separations and time of crisis. This resiliency allows our Marines and Sailors to stay focused on mission accomplishment by knowing their families are ready and supported. To achieve this, the MARCENT UPFRP will focus on four basic tenets:

- ***Official Communication which maintains open two-way dialogue between the command and its Marines, Sailors and Families to keep them informed and help eliminate rumors and uncertainty.***
- ***Information Resource and Referral Services which provides Marines, Sailors and Families with appropriate information and resources to match their needs.***
- ***Readiness and Deployment Support which focuses on maintaining accountability of those Marines and Sailors who are deployed and educating families so they are empowered to help themselves and others during these deployments.***
- ***Volunteer Services Management; harnessing the talents, experiences, and insights of family members by encouraging them to Volunteer is an integral part of a successful UPFRP. MARCENT shall develop strategies to help maximize these resources.***

Central to these four tenets is the individual Marine and Sailor. As stated in MCO 1754.9, "The individual Marine is responsible for promoting opportunities to their family and ensure education, preparation and readiness against the inevitable mission and/or lifecycle events that may serve as detractors from family readiness." The MARCENT UPFRP will focus on the individual Marine or Sailor – guiding, empowering, supporting, and resourcing – so each of our families is ready as one of our Nation's "First to Fight."

Well-prepared and informed Marines, Sailors and Families are the bedrock of strong units; strong units power the Commands and Elements that make up MARCENT. I believe our best chance for success in the battle lies in well-supported units which bring our expeditionary forced capabilities to bear. I require leaders at all levels to be involved with their Marines and Sailors, ensuring we "take care of our own" by remaining cognizant of the personal and family readiness of those in their charge.

For assistance, see your Unit Family Readiness Officer or for additional information, contact the MARCENT Family Readiness Officer, Mr. Daniel Abate at (813) 827-4344 or daniel.abate@marcent.usmc.mil. Additional family readiness information and resources can be found at www.emarine.org.

Semper Fidelis,

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