

MWHS-2 Families and Friends,

I am excited and honored to be with the MWHS-2 family. I am impressed with the motivation and dedication of the Marines and Sailors. I thoroughly enjoy working in this command and that is a direct result of all the fantastic Marines and Sailors that are in this squadron.

They do amazing things each and every day but I realize that none of this would be possible without the tremendous support of their families. Your sacrifices and dedication are vital to maintaining our morale and providing a base of support from which we derive our strength. Military life is a calling with tremendous sacrifice, for both the service member and the family; I recognize and appreciate your perseverance, endurance and tribulation. Family Readiness and Combat Readiness go hand-in-hand. We would be unable to achieve what we do, day in and day out, without the support we receive from our families. I am as proud of the families as I am of the Marines and Sailors in MWHS-2.

Readiness is my number one priority. This means having the right plan, information, tools and resources to successfully meet the challenges we face. We also need well informed and well supported families. There is no one facet of readiness that is more important than the other. Particularly during these challenging War years, solid family readiness is foundational to the success of every unit. The Marine Corps have taken steps to accomplish this by hiring full time civilian Family Readiness Officers. Susan Stamper-Smith is the "DEUCE" Family Readiness Officer. She is here to assist you and your family with anything that you may need help with. She can be reached at (252) 466-7035 or by email at susan.stampersmith@usmc.mil. If you are interested in helping out your fellow Deuce families, we have many open positions with Moral Support Teams and Family Readiness Assistants. Give Susan a call and she can give you more details about these opportunities.

Today, as we continue to support the Global War on Terror, our units are working harder than ever to balance their time at home with the rigors of pre/post deployment stressors. I am keenly aware of the pressures we place on our families. I am equally impressed with the way our families come together and support one another. Your contribution to our collective success will not be taken for granted.

You have shared with us a very important person in your life, and I can assure you that we have fully taken your Marine or Sailor into the MWHS-2 Family. Thank you for your continued support, sacrifice, and loyalty. I encourage each of you to continue your involvement or get involved in our Family Readiness program. Together, we will prevail, grow stronger, and be ready!

Semper Fi,
LtCol Thomas Witczak