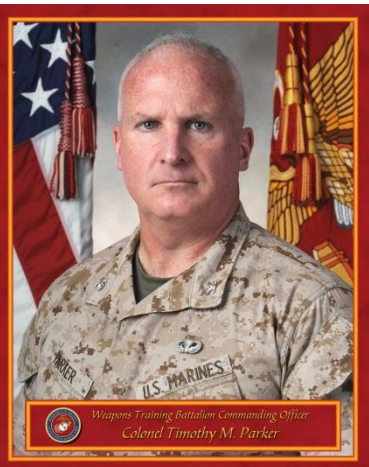




## COMMANDING OFFICER'S INTENT



I am extremely proud and humbled to be your Commanding Officer. Have no doubt that our efforts are shaping the future of the Marine Corps, and raising the combat effectiveness of our Corps, whether its training junior officers or Marines participating in Division Matches in marksmanship or entry level Marines in civil affairs, ammunition, ordnance, food management, or public affairs, or conducting advanced training in breaching, sniping, or free fall parachuting, we are ensuring our Corps remains the preeminent crisis response force of choice, a force that is most ready, when our Nation is the least.

I believe that to be successful, we all need to practice brilliance in the basics, that means if we get the simple things right, the big things will follow. (e.g. If we write good fitreps → good Marines get promoted, if we teach good marksmanship → individual Marines and units become more combat proficient, if we teach proper breaching → the overall assault will be successful, etc.)

Every Marine is a leader, needs professional development and mentoring, and is accountable for his / her actions (both good and bad).

You can't lead by e-mail → Get out of your desk and talk to other Marines, especially me.

This Battalion should be like your second family, just don't forget your first. Being a Marine is extremely important, so is being a husband, wife, father, and mother. One day we'll all be retired Marines, make sure the most important people are still around you.

Don't waste time. Getting something done today is better than tomorrow or the next week. This doesn't mean cutting into safety, just being diligent. Have a plan before you execute, Marines should never be sitting around due to poor planning. There are days and weeks when we'll have to be in early, stay late, and work weekends, but should never be the norm, and if it is, then its wrong.

We don't have time for hazing, sexual harassment, or discrimination, nor will it be tolerated.

Recognize superior effort and achievement, and do it in a timely fashion.

Have fun. We are United States Marines, building the future of our Corps in tactics, techniques and procedures that will make it even more combat effective on the future battlefield...what could be better!

Semper Fidelis

T. M. PARKER  
Col, U.S. Marine Corps