



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE HEAVY HELICOPTER TRAINING SQUADRON 302
MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 29, 2D MARINE AIRCRAFT WING
U.S. MARINE CORPS FORCES COMMAND, PSC BOX 21008
JACKSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 28545-1008

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1700

CO

4 Nov 10

From: Commanding Officer, Marine Heavy Helicopter Training Squadron 302
To: Distribution List

Subj: SQUADRON FAMILY READINESS POLICY

Ref: (a) MCO 1754.6A Marine Corps Family Team Building
(b) MCO 1740.13A Marine Corps Family Care Plan
(c) Commander's Philosophy

Encl: (1) Family Care Plan Policy
(2) Department of the Navy Family Care Plan Certificate

1. Situation. Marines are valued and productive members of society often highly regarded and well respected. As citizens they participate in the local community where they build friendships and loving relationships. In the course of human events, these relationships often lead to marriage and/or children. Marriage and/or parenthood is potentially the most rewarding and complex relationship a Marine can enter; they may also be the least understood, and should not be entered into without serious consideration and full understanding of the personal and professional impacts on the Marine's life.

a. Background. Marines in healthy and loving relationships with strong families may increase squadron readiness through improved mental and spiritual health, as well as having daily access to a solid emotional support structure. Marines in conflict with their loved ones and separated from their families or children due to disputes or infidelity are not performing at full capacity, and invariably place additional burden on the command and their peers.

b. Philosophy. This policy does not advocate or disparage any Marine's right to the pursuit of happiness in any form of relationship. The strength of any Marine is directly affected by his or her relationship with family and loved ones; therefore, the strength and well-being of our Marines and their families are critical to the success of the squadron as defined in references (a) and (b). Domestic disputes, divorce, and child custody issues negatively impact squadron readiness through disruption and personal conflict.

c. Enforcement. This is a punitive order. Paragraph 3 contains the punitive provisions. Violations of this order are punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and may be the basis for adverse administrative action.

2. Mission. This order sets forth the philosophy, policy and procedures for conduct of mandatory marriage and parental counseling for all HMHT-302 Marines. All leaders and mentors will establish procedures to ensure the implementation of required counseling and training. All training will be documented by work center supervisors and mentors, with copies delivered to the squadron Family Readiness Officer.

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3. Execution.

a. Marriage.

(1) Before getting married, personnel 26 years of age or younger are required to attend Marine Corps Family Team Building (MCFTB) Pre-marital Workshop, Singles Seminar, and Budget Workshop. Marines reporting to the squadron who have been married for less than a year are also required to attend all three classes within four months of reporting in.

(2) Any Marine who has been divorced and is about to re-marry is still required to attend the MCFTB Pre-Marital Workshop Training.

(3) All Marines in the above categories will first seek guidance and assistance through their chain of command and the squadron Family Readiness Officer.

b. Parenting.

(1) All Marines 26 years of age or younger who are expecting their first child are required to attend MCFTB New Parent Support Program Training. It is highly encouraged for Marines over the age of 27 to attend. Specifically, Marines will attend either Mom's Basic Training or Daddy's Baby Boot Camp, as appropriate. Marines reporting to the squadron who have children under the age of two are also recommended to attend the MCFTB training within four months of reporting in.

(2) Any squadron Marine regardless of age, who is planning on getting married to someone who has children under the age of two is required to attend the MCFTB training.

c. Marine Family Care Plans.

(1) Submission of a final family care plan must be made to the CO within 60 days of notification. Official notification will be via page 11 entry.

(2) Individual Marines are solely responsible for initiating a Family Care Plan within thirty days of arrival and or change in status under the following conditions:

(a) Marine is or becomes a single parent with custody of children under the age of 19 years.

(b) Dual military couples with dependents under the age of 19 years, in which case both service members must have a plan.

(c) Family circumstances or other personal status changes in which the Marine becomes solely responsible for the complete care (housing, medical, logistical, financial, food, clothing, or transportation) of another family member who may or may not reside in the same household. Such circumstances include, but are not limited to:

1. Birth or adoption of child(ren).

2. Loss of a spouse through death, separation, or divorce.

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3. Enlistment (or commissioning) in the military (regular or Reserve component) by a spouse when the Marine and spouse become a dual military couple with dependents.

4. Assumption of sole care for an elderly or disabled family member.

5. Assumption of sole care for a member with limited command of the English language, or the inability to drive or to gain access to basic life-sustaining facilities. Exercise of personal judgment will be considered by the command in implementing this subsection based on considerations of geographic location or mission.

6. Recurring absence of a spouse through career/job commitments or other reasons.

(3) The Marine must update their Family Care Plan upon reporting in and update every six months thereafter. Family Care Plans will be produced via Enclosure 1.

4. Administration and Logistics. Most classes are offered quarterly; therefore, it is the Marine's responsibility to plan accordingly. Marines will coordinate and document all MCFTB training with the Family Readiness Officer.

5. Command and Signal. This order is applicable to all squadron personnel and is effective as of this date.


B. L. BRIDGEWATER