

Commander's Guidance

6th Marine Corps District

My guidance for the Marines, Sailors, and civilian Marines of 6th Marine Corps District:

- 1) Know and stay focused on the mission.
- 2) Be professional in all things.
- 3) Excel at the fundamentals.

Endstate: 6th District aggressively and efficiently attains its accession mission of the highest quality force of Marines possible to sustain the combat readiness of our Corps while maintaining the highest professional standards.



Know and stay focused on the mission. This district's mission has four elements:

- 1) Find the best men and women in the southeastern United States to become Marines.
- 2) Develop them to ensure their greatest opportunity for success upon accession.
- 3) Provide them and your communities exceptional leadership by conduct and example.
- 4) Meet the high standards of quality and performance established by the Commandant and the Commanding General of the Eastern Recruiting Region.

Our mission is enduring- there can be many distractions, but the best Marines will stay focused on this mission and succeed personally and professionally.

Be professional in all things. In simple terms – ***Do your duty.*** How you conduct your daily business as a Marine speaks volumes as to whether you are always faithful (Semper Fidelis). Whether it is your own personal integrity with yourself, your family, your fellow Marines, your poolees/candidates, or the American public, remain faithful to our high standards and ***keep our honor clean.*** One challenge of independent duty is the lack of structure that demands additional character by you to remain squared away, PT, and exercise initiative. It is also one of the greatest rewards of this duty to retain the trust and fidelity that has been placed on you, and see that trust grow with billets of greater responsibility.

Be aware of the moral imperatives in every decision you make and always pursue the greater interest of the Corps. Maintain our customs and courtesies, and the authority vested in your role as a leader and mentor within your station and community. Most importantly, take care of your Marines (present and future), their families, and yourselves.

Excel at the fundamentals. ***Prospect and Sell...Every day.*** We are Marines on Recruiting. It is normal to have a fear of failure and a hunger that never quite goes away. That hunger is the need to prospect and sell, talk to every potential applicant, and always be closing. That mindset is the reality of possible failure- so keep prospecting.

We must train. We must deliberately reinforce and improve our skills in systematic recruiting and Marine Communications. It is the responsibility of each Marine to actively seek self-improvement and be willing to grow. It is an imperative for leadership to deliver training that develops our Marine Recruiters to their full potential.

If you are in any form of a leadership from canvassing recruiter on up, I expect you to know and apply the Marine Corps' Leadership Traits and Principles, be proficient at your trade, lead by example, and trust your Marines.


J.C. SMITHERMAN