

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 542

COMMANDING OFFICER'S CRISIS POLICY STATEMENT

Unit, Personal and Family Readiness Program (UPFRP), directs the establishment of policy at the unit level by which information is disseminated to the Marines, their spouses and designated parents/extended family members in the event of a crisis. Examples of a crisis or perceived crisis for the UPFRP purpose include an entire unit family being killed in a car accident, a base closure due to impending hurricane or other weather phenomena, or a helicopter crash in the country/vicinity of a deployed unit.

The Family Readiness Officer (FRO) and appointed volunteers of the program have no role in the casualty notification process; therefore, any unsolicited communication from the FRO that is deemed necessary by the commander shall be passed through the Casualty Assistance Calls Officer (CACO). It is my policy that information disseminated will not interfere with or precede the Marine Corps policy for casualty notification. In accordance with the casualty notification process, Commanders are not authorized to release any information about a deceased Marine until 24 hours after the next of kin have been notified and a press release has been made public.



Each crisis occurrence will dictate the method of communication and will not necessarily be the same. I, or my representative, will advise the FRO on which part of the Organizational Communication System to use and I will normally personally approve the content of the communication. Options available include these or any combination thereof; Toll Free Marine Corps Unit Hotline, Email, Newsletter, Word of mouth, and any additional method I have at my disposal

My underlying desire is to provide timely and accurate communication to the Marines, spouses, and family members. The FRO should proactively seek guidance from me or my designated representative before sending any communication during or following a crisis situation.

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John D. Ferguson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

John D. Ferguson
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer, Marine Attack Squadron 542
26 October 2015

