

## COMMANDING OFFICER MALS-13

### FAMILY READINESS PHILOSOPHY

MALS-13's most precious assets are our Marines, Sailors, and their families. Unlike operational squadrons, the MALS sends a detachment of Marines to support all Marine Aircraft Group 13's (MAG-13) deployments. We have Marines deployed 365 days a year and that is why it is imperative that we have a strong Family Readiness Program. Family Readiness equals Mission Readiness.

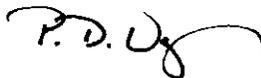
My effectiveness as the commander is a direct result of open communication throughout this command and its families. I believe family readiness is a collaborative effort that is enabled and empowered by the communication facilitated by our Family Readiness Officer, Mr. Larry Leaver ([larry.leaver@usmc.mil](mailto:larry.leaver@usmc.mil)) and the Family Readiness Advisors. Combined with the direction from the command team, the efforts of our volunteers and the resources available through the Marine Corps Family Team Building and [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com), the MALS-13 Family Readiness Team will enable balanced excellence and mission success for this squadron.

The goals for MALS-13's Family Readiness are:

1. Foster effective communication between the commands we support, our command team, the Black Widows and their families.
2. Prepare Black Widows and family members for contingencies during deployment.
3. Provide awareness of events within the squadron, MCAS Yuma and in the local area.
4. Enhance morale and welfare of the Black Widows and their families.

The primary means for effective communication lies between each Marine and Sailor and his or her family. When that is not possible, such as during deployment, the communication provided by the Family Readiness team is invaluable. I encourage every Black Widow to register their family members in the program in order to keep our extended family informed, prepared and ready.

Semper Fidelis,



PATRICK D. WAUGH

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps

Commanding