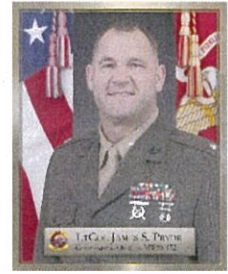




**Marine Wing Support Squadron 172
Commanding Officer's Policy Statement on**

Crisis Response

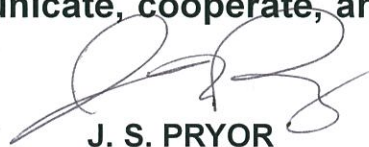


We, as Marines and sailors, operate in a risky and dangerous environment. While we strive to mitigate risks and create safe people, situations, and environments there is the potential for accidents, tragic mishaps, or attacks on our people or facilities. In the event of one of these events, such as, the loss of a Firebird Family member in a car accident, an aviation mishap that claims the lives of MWSS-172 members or an attack on one of our facilities, **I will ensure appropriate information is communicated to all Firebirds and Firebird Family members through an official Commander's Message.** The message for a particular crisis will be in an official format and e-mailed to all hands as well as the Family Readiness Designated Contacts in Marine Online (MOL).

The timeliness of my official communications will not interfere with the Marine Corps' official casualty notification process. **I will not publish information before it is appropriate or authorized to do so.** I will ensure that Firebirds and Firebird Families know as much as possible as soon as possible. When appropriate, I will seek to communicate how Firebird Families may help, as that is often the desire of those not directly affected by a crisis.

Please note that the Uniformed Readiness Coordinator has no role in the casualty notification process. If there is a crisis that requires official notification to Firebird Families, communication will be done through a Casualty Assistance Calls Officer (CACO) with the assistance of the Chaplain and appropriate squadron and company leadership. The goal of the casualty notification process is prompt notification and continuous care to family members until case management can be appropriately transferred to HQMC Casualty Branch.

While I hope and pray that we can avoid instances like these, it is not something we can fail to plan for. This policy statement explains how I will communicate with Firebirds and Firebird Families in the event of a crisis. Please make note and let your loved ones know. **If tragedy strikes, we will do what Firebirds always do: communicate, cooperate, and provide support.**



J. S. PRYOR