

Firebirds Officer Guidance

BLUF: Work hard, make each other better, make this unit more enjoyable, and daily commit yourself to excellence. Always give it your best.

Do the routine things routinely well – Great units do the routine things routinely well. This includes performance evaluations (FITREPs, JEPES), administrative requirements, maintenance, evaluations (CGI, FSMAO, MCCRE) and operations. Do them well.

Attitude – An enthusiastic, positive attitude is a force multiplier and it starts with us – enthusiasm is contagious, especially when it comes from the front.

Being an Officer – The essence of being an officer is the possession and maintenance of good character and habits, a sense of responsibility, getting along with others, good judgment, and the continuing will to strive.

Professionalism – We all have a professional reputation in this service and it started to be built the day we raised our right hand for the first time – guard it well as it is hard to maintain, but even harder to rebuild. Do not accept anything less than professional.

Intent – Whenever we have the time, we should take the opportunity to explain the “why” behind an order – our subordinates will perform better if they understand the why, and it frequently dispels both rumor and conjecture which are regular morale killers.

Personal maintenance – As leaders, we can sometimes forget that we need to sleep, eat, and PT. Our minds are our most potent weapon, if we allow them to grow dull and foggy, we are doing our subordinates an immense disservice.

Responsibility – We have been given great responsibilities and need always to live up to them. Always remember, **our rank imparts responsibility, not privilege.**

Never Forget the S – Supervision does not equal micromanagement – it means that we care enough to check on and admire the work our subordinates are doing. Have the Marines teach you their job while you supervise.



N. A. PENN
FIREBIRD 6