



## UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

BATTERY C  
1ST BATTALION, 11TH MARINES  
1ST MARINE DIVISION  
CAMP PENDLETON, CA 92055-5514

In reply refer to:

1000

MMH

28 Jun 16

From: Gunnery Sergeant Michael M Hawk USMC  
To: To Whom It May Concern

Subj: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION IN CASE OF SGT DARRYL C FORBES

1. I proudly write this letter of recommendation to Military Reenlisting Authority Monitors that will be considering Sergeant Forbes for reenlistment and entrance back into our United States Marine Corps community.
2. I have known Sergeant Forbes since June 2014 when we served together assigned to the Ground Combat Integrated Task Force as members of Alpha Battery. I was his Battery Gunnery Sergeant and observed his actions every day for over a year. Sergeant Forbes has a strong work ethic and is extremely dependable.
3. Sergeant Forbes served as the Fire Direction Center Operations Leader for our battery during 6 months of training work ups and a subsequent 3 month engaged participation with the entire Ground Combat Integrated Task Force. Our training for the Marine Corps study took us to 29 Palms, Ca for three months of various field evaluations to assess the willingness, potential, and ability of male and female Marines to operate as individuals and as one cohesive artillery unit. In each of the prescribed events, Sergeant Forbes exceeded my expectations with the level of drive and initiative he brought forward while executing 0848 specific tasks. Sergeant Forbes was a capable and more than proficient Marine in all of his required MOS related tasks assigned. He was always willing to undertake the responsibility within the larger battery to take on multiple unrelated MOS specific tasks such as range setups and logistical coordination duties to ensure training and readiness standards were met, as many of his peers at that time failed and were unwilling to do. Sergeant Forbes is able to do this because of his work ethic and personal desire to contribute and not be a liability to the Marines he works beside. Sergeant Forbes had showcased his professionalism and character as he constantly sought out his own FDC counterparts and Howitzer Section Chiefs for gun crew knowledge for the purposes of excelling among his peers. This type of willingness to humble himself and seek out Marines with the MOS experience, allowed Sergeant Forbes to easily conduct operations and planning outside his own MOS. This made him very valuable to the command, as he quickly became the "go to Sergeant" for 'everything' regardless of scope of assignment.
4. Even with the immense responsibility of continuously operating at a high tempo striving towards the Field Artillery motto of shoot, move, and communicate, Sergeant Forbes always set the example for Marines of all grades the entire year that he served in the Task Force. He repeatedly demonstrated his eagerness for increased responsibility and had my full faith and confidence when placed into challenging situations and tasks for the battery. I enthusiastically recommended him for reenlistment and movement back into our beloved organization. The Marines he served with considered him a Marine of tremendous value to the 0848 and 0811 community based on his repeated positive abilities. His transition back to the MOS or any MOS the corps

chooses for him upon his return will be a seamless one and the Marine Corps will benefit from his addition to the ranks.

5. Sergeant Forbes's exceptional leadership paired with his attention to detail, motivation, and technical ability were significant factors for his FDC sections repeated success and the Battery's overall success while conducting Marine Corps directed training and evaluations. Given the opportunity to I would gladly continue serving alongside this Marine again.

4. If I can be of any further assistance please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at (760)390-5424 or michael.hawk@usmc.mil.

  
M. M. HAWK