



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
22D MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT  
II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE  
PSC BOX 20082  
CAMP LEJEUNE, NC 28542

1000  
S-3  
19 Apr 16

From: First Lieutenant Thomas J. Ward, 22D Marine Expeditionary Unit  
To: Whom It May Concern

Subj: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR DARRYL FORBES

a. Darryl Forbes was a Sergeant in my platoon from 15 August 2014 until 10 July 2015. During this time he held a range of billets and responsibilities which greatly influenced the success of the platoon, and the battery as a whole. He has a great work ethic and continuously worked hard and utilized his section effectively to quickly and methodically accomplish any task assigned to him. Additionally he would constantly seek further responsibilities, and would volunteer to step up whenever a more senior billet opened up. Aside from his leadership abilities, his physical fitness and technical prowess far surpass the Marine Corps standards and expectations. Below are examples when he portrayed the aforementioned character traits.

b. Due to the nature of the unit we served in, The Ground Combat Element Integrated Task Force, upon unit stand-up there was a lot that needed to be done before training could begin. Darryl Forbes, worked in concert with the Battery Gunnery Sergeant to acquire all equipment and office supplies necessary to stand up the Battery. He then got all working spaces (both administrative in the office, and technical in the howitzer bay) ready for the year of training to come. His initiative of leading the junior Marines that were present ensured that every work day was used efficiently to get as much done prior to the main body of the battery arriving. His efforts set the tempo and groundwork to a successful training cycle.

c. While the battery was forwardly deployed to Twentynine Palms California there was a shuffle of personnel, and when the billet of section leader opened Darryl Forbes quickly took charge of this responsibility. Subsequently a few weeks later the Platoon Sergeant was forced to return to Camp Lejeune for family, at which point Darryl Forbes assumed the billet of Platoon Sergeant. These two instances in quick succession prove how much Sergeant Forbes desired to lead Marines and to take on further responsibilities whenever the presented themselves. This was a common trend portrayed throughout my time as his Platoon Commander.

d. Sergeant Forbes displayed outstanding physical fitness that went above and beyond the standard. He consistently scored high on any fitness test that he was put under, as well as led every section physical training (PT) session. During larger unit PT sessions he would always be at the front of the pack leading by example. Aside from his peak physical fitness he also embodied the leadership trait of being tactically and technically proficient. Not only was he outstanding with technical fire direction, he was also well versed with communications and motor transport equipment. Very rarely was there a technical issue within the platoon that he was not a part of the solution with. As mentioned when he assumed leadership of the section he

Subj: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR DARRYL FORBES

also too on the role of Battery Operations chief. While holding this billet he was responsible for directing the section to generating safe and accurate technical firing data for 640 155mm artillery projectiles. This feat is another example of his strong technical proficiency.

e. While serving with Darryl Forbes he continued to impress me across every aspect of being a Marine. His leadership, superior physical and technical prowess, along with his devotion to the unit led me to rank him as my top report for all Sergeant Fitness Reports, and I foresee him remaining my top indefinitely. Darryl Forbes is without a doubt a great candidate to return to active military service, and would greatly improve the United States Marine Corps should he be given the opportunity to do so.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. J. Ward', with a stylized flourish at the end.

T. J. WARD