



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
FIRST RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION
RECRUIT TRAINING REGIMENT
MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT
4000 HOCHMUTH AVE
SAN DIEGO, CA 92140-5296

5532

CO

21 JUL 2021

Welcome Aboard from the Commanding Officer

On behalf of the Marines, Sailors, and families of First Recruit Training Battalion I would like to welcome you to "Big Red 1".

First Recruit Training Battalion has the important mission of making basically trained Marines for service to Corps and Country. This is a demanding mission, but one of the most rewarding in the Marine Corps; the Marines and Sailors of the Battalion have a tremendous and lasting impact on every new Marine.

Permanent personnel will be assigned to one of four training companies (A, B, C, or D), and each training company executes a 13 week training cycle every three to four months.

Although the Battalion has a high operational tempo, there will be time to balance family with work. First, I expect the Companies to rotate the duty schedule and ensure personnel get sufficient rest during the cycle. Additionally, there are opportunities for leave and liberty between each cycle. Finally, families are welcome and encouraged to attend all Company and Battalion events. My wife and I have been married for 17 years and have two young children; sustaining a healthy work & family balance is an essential part of the First Battalion philosophy and culture.

I understand coming to a new unit can be stressful. That said, Southern California is a great place to live and serve. The Battalion also has plenty of volunteer opportunities for those interested. Please reach out to our Uniformed Readiness Coordinator (URC) SSgt Robert J. Welker at (719)331-9010. Robert stands ready to assist you with all of your transition and family readiness questions throughout your tour.

I look forward to meeting and working with you. Welcome Aboard!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LtCol Greg Grayson".

LtCol Greg Grayson