



## VMFAT-501

# Commander's Intent

### **Accomplish the Mission**

Our mission at VMFAT-501 is to conduct core introduction Fighter/Attack training to meet Marine Corps manning requirements. Our ability to produce capable pilots and maintainers to the Fleet is critical to Marine TACAIR's transition to an all 5<sup>th</sup> Gen force and to face the ever changing global fight.

### **Be a Team Player**

It is imperative you know your role, execute it with confidence and passion, and hold yourself and others accountable if things go wrong. Have a positive mental attitude. There is truth in the saying that "life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it." Your attitude is the one thing you can control all of the time. Our line of work is stressful and demanding. A positive mental attitude is essential to thriving in such an environment and enhances morale as a whole. Attitude is infectious. Staying positive will pay dividends towards our performance.

### **Take Care of Yourself**

Take care of yourself physically, mentally, spiritually, and professionally. Strike a work/life balance. Feed the machine so you are ready to capitalize on the next professional opportunity. Lean into the next qualification. Be ready to take the next rank. Be ready for the next PFT/CFT. Be ready for the next Fight, wherever it may be.

### **Take Care of Your Family**

Family readiness is a key foundation on which the squadron is built. Invest in your family and support system. They are a valued part of this team and vital to its success. Keep them informed. Make sure they are equally prepared for the next detachment.

### **Protect the Patch!**

We are a team and a family. Our patch equates to our family surname and we shall protect it in the same manner. Your fellow Warlords are like your brothers and sisters. Have their backs, on and off duty. Don't be afraid to stop a bad situation. Get help when you need it. Get others help when they need it. Look out for each other's families. Each of you is a key piece of our success. We need each and every one of you in order to accomplish the mission.

I am proud to be on this team and you should be too. I am excited to serve with each and every one of you.

*Christopher E. Brandt  
Lieutenant Colonel, USMC  
Commanding Officer*