

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON OF THE YEAR



THE LAWSON H. M. SANDERSON AWARD

Presented by THE MARINE CORPS AVIATION ASSOCIATION to

Established in Memory of
Major General Lawson H. M. Sanderson,
a Pioneer in the Development of
Dive-Bombing and Close Air Support
in Marine Aviation.

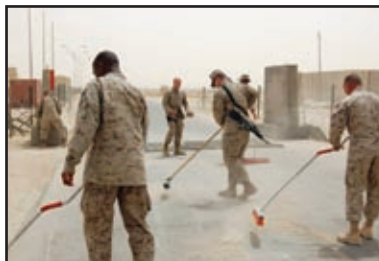
In Recognition of
The Most Outstanding
Marine Attack Squadron
in Marine Aviation.



**BAE SYSTEMS
ELECTRONICS, INTELLIGENCE
& SUPPORT**

2008 VMA-231	1993 VMFA (AW)-242
2007 VMA-211	1992 VMA-231
2006 VMA-211	1991 VMA-311
2005 VMA-542	1990 VMA-331
2004 VMA-513	1989 VMA(AW)-224
2003 VMA-542	1988 VMA-311
2002 VMA-223	1987 VMA-214
2001 VMA-311	1986 VMA (AW)-242
2000 VMA-223	1985 VMA(AW)-332
1999 VMA-223	1984 VMA-211
1998 VMA-211	1983 No Award Given
1997 VMA-214	1982 VMA-214
1996 VMA-211	1981 VMA(AW)-533
1995 VMA-211	1980 VMA(AW)-533
1994 VMFA (AW)-533	1979 VMA(AW)-121

VMA-311



Award Citation

Marine Attack Squadron 311 made outstanding contributions to Marine Corps aviation from 1 May 2008 to 30 April 2009. VMA-311 set the standard as the premier Marine attack squadron by routinely demonstrating extraordinary professionalism, capability and reliability during an arduous period of exceptionally high operational tempo. Over the past year, the Tomcats of VMA-311 faced the daunting task of executing simultaneous deployments to Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, and aboard the USS Peleliu in support of the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit. Despite significant challenges, the Tomcats achieved mission success and while doing so, executed nearly 4,500 flight hours without experiencing a single flight related mishap. As clear testimony to the Tomcats' expertise, the squadron employed weapons systems in combat with lethal accuracy, never missing an assigned target or experiencing a weapons system malfunction. Once again, the Tomcats have answered the nation's call to arms with distinction. Through their dedication and superlative mission accomplishment, the Marines and sailors of VMA-311 reflected great credit upon themselves and upheld the highest traditions of Marine Corps aviation.



10 October 2009