
AFIO SCHOLARSHIP REQUEST

TO: AFIO SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE
FROM: MIDN FITZWATER
SUBJECT: AFIO SCHOLARSHIP
DATE: 1/27/2012

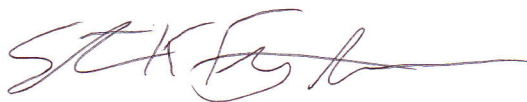
As a Midshipman in the University of New Mexico NROTC Unit, I am continuously researching and assessing which career path in the United States Marine Corps that I want to pursue. I believe that a career in the intelligence community is very important and fulfilling to my own desires of service to country, as well as a community to which I hope to be a great asset, given my specific strengths in academics, leadership, and work ethic.

I joined the NROTC unit so that I could give back to the United States and contribute to keeping my family and country safe by commissioning and serving in the United States Marine Corps. I have always wanted to join a community in which I would be able lead Marines, overcome challenges, have an important impact on the nation, and incorporate my specific skills in academics, leadership, and physical fitness. The Marine Corps intelligence community strikes me as a perfect fit. I understand that the intelligence community is very important to national security and to the lives of Marines in combat. I have had experience in leading fellow midshipmen in the NROTC unit with the billets of platoon commander, platoon sergeant, and squad leader. I have had further training in leadership by completing Marine Corps Officer Candidates School in Quantico, Virginia. I feel that my leadership ability can be a great asset to the intelligence community.

This community is very challenging, given its inherent importance. I enjoy overcoming challenges and have always taken on tasks for their sheer challenge. I chose to study mechanical engineering because of its challenging curriculum and the great opportunity to apply this to an influential career in the Marine Corps, in which I would then be better equipped to make a difference. Given my current GPA of 3.78 and my status as a member of Pi Tau Sigma, the mechanical engineering honor society, I obviously enjoy overcoming challenging tasks and putting my full effort into every challenge I attempt. This hard work ethic, which I was raised with, should stand me in good stead in the intelligence community. Furthermore, through my major, I have become very efficient in thinking analytically about situations and understanding all aspects that comprise them. I understand the importance of this ability in the intelligence community. I am able to piece together aspects of a problematic system in nearly any situation, as I would piece together the components of an engineering system. Being part Japanese, I have grown up with exposure to different cultures and customs of life. I enjoy studying these cultures and believe that this will further enhance my contribution to the intelligence community.

I am looking forward to the honor and challenge of serving in the intelligence community and making a difference in the security of this nation. Overall, with my leadership ability, hard work ethic, mechanical engineering degree, and my life-long dreams of honorably serving in a challenging and important community, I am confident that I will excel and benefit the intelligence community in the United States Marine Corps.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'STEVEN FITZWATER', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MIDN Steven Fitzwater