

# MARINE TILTROTOR SQUADRON OF THE YEAR



## THE FRED McCORKLE AWARD

Presented by THE MARINE CORPS AVIATION ASSOCIATION to

Established in Honor of  
LtGen Fred McCorkle, Whose  
Leadership and Dedication Contributed  
to the Success of the V-22 Program.

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

### VMM-261



**BELL BOEING TEAM**



2009 VMM-266  
2008 VMM-263



### Award Citation

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 261 provided meritorious service in support of II MEF, the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), and Marine Expeditionary Brigade Afghanistan, from 1 January, 2009, to 31 December, 2009. During this period, the Raging Bulls continued their almost 60 year tradition of being the preeminent medium-lift assault support squadron in the Marine Corps. 2009 saw the Marines and sailors of VMM-261 span the globe from pre-deployment operations in the mountains and deserts of California, to combat operations in Helmand province and across southern Afghanistan. Within days of arriving in theater, the Raging Bulls began flight operations, and by mid-December, had moved 1,973 passengers, 72,480 lbs of cargo, and conducted night assaults and raids in support of Operation Cobra's Anger. In less than one calendar year, the relentless dedication and spirit of VMM-261 brought them from the core training stage of transition to being a fully combat capable MV-22 Osprey squadron fighting in the heart of the Global War on Terror. The Raging Bulls of VMM-261 have upheld the highest standards of Marine aviation and the United States Naval Service.



22 May 2010