

MARINE AIR COMMAND/CONTROL OFFICER OF THE YEAR

For outstanding meritorious achievement in the performance of his duties while serving as Officer-in-Charge, 2D LAAD C-UAS, MWSD-371, SPMAGTF-CR-CC from May to August 2020. First Lieutenant Watkins' immediate recognition and remediation of operating procedure and base defense weaknesses contributed to a decrease in target acquisition times up to 75%. This singular reduction in the drone defense kill chain had immeasurable effects and vastly contributed to the overall success of not only counter-drone operations, but the safety of all assets and base defense personnel. By his own initiative, he attained never before delegated authority from theater-level jurisdictions for the kinetic targeting and acquisition of targets, resulting in the successful destruction of over 20 enemy targets. First Lieutenant Watkins' exceptional professionalism, personal initiative, and total dedication to duty reflected credit on himself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

First Lieutenant Jonathan B. Watkins

2D LAAD BN,
SPMAGTF-CR

ROBERT F. GIBSON AWARD



Established in honor of Colonel Robert F. Gibson, a pioneer in the concept of integrated air control group detachments supporting Marine aviation around the globe, for the most outstanding contribution to Marine aviation by an officer serving in a Marine command and control unit.

SPONSORED BY

**General Dynamics
Mission Systems**

