

Summary of Action

Corporal Patrick B. Sammon is enthusiastically recommended for the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroic achievement while serving as Electrician, Marine Wing Communications Squadron 38, Marine Air Control Group 38, 3D Marine Aircraft Wing, I Marine Expeditionary Force on 9 January 2016. During this period, Corporal Sammon distinguished himself through superior initiative, bravery, and selfless devotion to duty. His specific accomplishments are set forth in the following:

According to the attached police report and eyewitness statements, on 9 January 2016 at approximately 2200, Corporal Sammon was departing a convenience store at the corner of Miramar Road and Black Mountain Road when he heard an automobile accident occur nearby. Corporal Sammon ran to the accident site and quickly surveyed the situation. One of the vehicles was badly damaged, with its engine stuck in gear, running at full throttle with smoke beginning to come from the engine compartment. The occupant of the vehicle was unconscious and slumped over the steering wheel. None of the bystanders in the area were approaching the vehicle due to the danger presented by the still running engine. Without hesitation, and without regard for the imminent threat to his safety, Corporal Sammon ran to the damaged vehicle and forced the door open. As he pulled the unconscious driver from the wreckage the engine seized and caught fire. Corporal Sammon carried the unconscious driver away from the burning vehicle to safety on the side of the road.

After placing the unconscious victim in a safe position away from the burning vehicle, he returned to aid the occupants of another car that was damaged in the accident. The driver of the second car was seriously injured. Corporal Sammon, with the help of another occupant of the vehicle, picked up the driver and carried him to the side of the road while stabilizing his badly broken leg. Corporal Sammon remained at the scene and provided first aid to both victims while awaiting the arrival of emergency services.

Humble and well-spoken, Corporal Sammon went on to speak about the accident with local media. Conducting an on-the-spot interview and several follow-on interviews, Corporal Sammon was a positive representative for the United States Marine Corps. "I think it's more about being a good human being," he said in an interview with KGTV. "You see a guy who needs help, you help him."

Corporal Sammon overcame fear and adversity, applied critical thinking, and chose to risk his personal safety to save the life of a person in need. He went on to stabilize the other victims of the accident from a dangerous and deteriorating situation. His heroic actions brought credit to himself and the United States Marine Corps. As a result, Corporal Sammon is highly deserving of the Navy and Marine Corps Medal.