



## Department of Texas Marine Corps League

### 2025-2026

### Young Marines Liaison Report

Young Marines continue to adapt and overcome the changing society norms and modern dangers of drugs and other dangerous activities. The program has had a significant impact on the youth of today. The program is primarily focused on “Drug Demand Reduction,” however, it is so much more than that. We expose the Young Marines to leadership, discipline, community service, and veterans’ appreciation. The longer a kid stays in the program, they will develop into productive people that will be ready for any of life’s obstacles.

For a very long time, Congress would provide funding for programs like the Young Marines. This allowed the program to provide quality training, summer programs, and overall operating cost. In FY 2024, congress allocated some funding and did not provide further funding in each consecutive fiscal year. The program has worked tirelessly to operate in a lean manner to keep the program active. They have dramatically reduced operating cost that has negatively impacted the program, due to lack of summer programs and such.

Statistically, the program has made a positive impact on the following:

1. 30% of YMs join the armed services. 15% join the Marine Corps.
2. 85% of youth are unqualified for the armed services.
3. 65% of YMs become first responders, police officer, and teachers.
4. 95% of YMs continue to participate in community service.
5. 99% of YMs continue to be drug free.
6. 90% of YMs vote in elections.

#### **Texas Units**

There are two regiments of Young Marines.

1. 1st Texas Regiment – 8 Units
2. 2nd Texas Regiment – 14 Units

Since October 2025, the units have been involved in multiple activities throughout the State. Those activities include:

1. Unit Encampments
2. Trips – Pearl Harbor Remembrance, Code Talker Day (Arizona)



3. Leadership Schools
4. Parades & Color Guards
5. Veterans Appreciation Events – Memorial Day, Veterans Day
6. Annual Recruit Training
7. Community Service

Most Young Marine units operate on a similar schedule of events. Since January 2026, most units have a current recruit class or have graduated a new recruit class. The Adult Volunteers attend the annual Adult Leadership Conference in the spring.

#### **Future Events (Pending)**

1. Regiment Encampment (North)
2. Regiment Encampment (South)
3. Close Order Drill Competition (Sept/Oct?)

Most units have a point of contact with the local Marine Corps League Detachments, however, there are units that do not. The reason for this dynamic is the rotation of unit leadership. In some cases, the unit commander leaves and another Adult Volunteer is put in charge by default. That new Unit Commander may not have the information and does not know how to develop a relationship with the Marines Corps League. In some cases, the Marine Corps League reaches out to the local Young Marines unit and no response is provided.

#### **How can the relationship develop?**

As Marines, we all know small unit leadership, Close Order Drill, Physical fitness, and uniforms. Most units have a Marine in the unit, however, there are several units that do not. The Adult Volunteers are great, but they are not Marines. As Marines, we know what the name Marine means and add that extra push to excel. Unfortunately, there are units out there that treat their Young Marines like kids. They do not demand an instant willingness and obedience to orders. Thus, their uniforms are not correct or when put in the public eye, do not represent the uniform accordingly. As Marines, we make sure that our people are squared away and represent ourselves in a professional manner. We need more Marines in the Young Marines program. Most of us will never run a PFT, but your knowledge is what is much needed.

#### **Examples of how you can help units:**

1. Volunteer part time.



2. Provide a Certificate to the units' "Young Marine of the Year."
3. Be part of a promotion board.
4. Help units with contacts to get support or community service.
5. Just attend a regular meeting to see how they are doing.
6. Provide a class on your military experience.

The Young Marines organization always needs volunteers, even if it is part time. Most units meet 2-3 times per month. My challenge to you is to visit the closest unit to your detachment and get to know them. Attached is a list of all Young Marines units and the Unit Commanders' contact information.

The mission is to improve the relationship between the Marine Corps League and the Young Marines in Texas. Please reach out for any support or to get involved at (858) 900-4908.

Respectfully Submitted

Jose Escarsega  
Young Marines Liaison  
Department of Texas Marine Corps League



## Texas Young Marines Units

**1<sup>st</sup> Texas Regiment** Commander: **Rodger Rodman** 325-232-0665 [roger.rodman@youngmarines.org](mailto:roger.rodman@youngmarines.org)

Unit, Address	Unit Commander	Phone
Bomb City, 1401 SW 8th Ave. Amarillo, Amarillo, TX.	Joseph Butler	760-445-8039
Crossroads, 705 FM 700 B, Big Spring, TX.	Rodger Rodman	325-232-0665
Denton County, 2501 Spencer Rd. Denton, TX.	Christine Colacion-Zuniga	940-808-9374
El Paso, 2950 Cramer, Ft Bliss, El Paso, TX.	Rafael Luevanos	915-345-5548
Parker County, 500 Po Jo Dr. Springtown, TX.	Verne Bell	817-629-1909
South Plains, 6628 66th St. Lubbock, TX.	Brandi Cuellar	806-474-2887
Tarrant County, JRB Fort Worth, TX.	Briana Fleming	910-320-6875
Texarkana, 4700 E. 9th St. Texarkana, TX.	Victoria Johnson	760-308-7513

**2<sup>nd</sup> Texas Regiment** Commander: **Dina Dillon** 423-227-9610 [dina.dillon@youngmarines.org](mailto:dina.dillon@youngmarines.org)

Unit, Address	Unit Commander	Phone
Bosque County, 101 Ave. E Valley Mills, TX.	John Stuart	254-679-6110
Central Texas, 722 Leroy Pkwy. El Mott, TX	Coty Kilgo	254-856-2282
Crowley, 405 S. Oak St. Crowley, TX	Jose Escarsega	858-900-4908
Guadalupe Valley, 6808 SH 123, Seguin, TX.	Dina Dillon	423-227-9610
Heart of Texas, 2022 Clay Ave. Waco, TX.	Jesse Perez	254-744-6345
Kaufman County, 12433 FM 1641, Forney, TX.	Jacqueline Bracey	469-207-8360
Lake Ray Hubbard, 6310 Nueces Bay Dr. Rowlett, TX.	Thomas Johnson	469-954-1237
Lone Star, 15720 Hillcrest Rd. Dallas, TX.	Crystal Farris	469-912-6454
Crowley, 1401 W. Cleburne Road, Burleson, TX.	Jose Escarsega	858-900-4908
Navasota Valley, 209 Whitt St. Groesbeck, TX.	Michelle Mullinnix	254-645-0125
Rose City, 3450 Corporate Dr. Tyler, TX.	Brian Leach	903-593-8356
San Antonio, 209 Lemonwood Dr. San Antonio, TX.	Brandi Howell	210-617-3043
Space City, 21902 N.W. Freeway, Cypress, TX.	Angela Maness	910-581-2128
Williamson County, 1000 N. College St. Georgetown, TX.	Gustave Kawell III	512-412-9635