**Marion Military Academy  
JROTC Achieves HONOR UNIT WITH DISTINCTION – GOLD STAR  
for JPA Review**

All schools with a Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) program must be inspected every three years through a process known as the Junior ROTC Program of Accreditation or JPA. This inspection determines whether a program will be allowed to continue. It is used to evaluate the entire JROTC program to include quality of instructions, instructors and students to ensure a rigorous curriculum is provided to the students. The curriculum must be effective in teaching and learning through a series assessments, professional development, collaborative activities, and continuous improvement efforts.

Senior Army Instructor, Ret. CSM Mark A. George, has done a commendable job in teaching JROTC values, leadership, professional development and teamwork to his cadets. Due to the dedication of Ret CSM George to his country and the education of our young people, his Cadets performed at such a high level during the JPA inspection that HONOR UNIT WITH DISTINTION–GOLD STAR was awarded. Marion Military Academy scored a 96% out of a possible 100% and we couldn’t be more proud of our staff and students.

Our students put a lot of work into this award. The Battalion Commander, Executive Officer, Command Sergeant Major and primary Staff were required to present a briefing on the JROTC Continuous Improvement Plan or CIP for this school year. The briefing consisted of each Cadets explanation of their duties and responsibilities in the Battalion and their role in the CIP. Another select group of Cadets were required to present a briefing about the programs service learning project for the school year which is a flag retirement ceremony. A group of ten additional cadets at different levels in the program (LET1-LET4) were subjected to an inspection of their Cadet portfolios which are kept throughout their time in JROTC and contain tests, evaluations, assessments, essays and more from both the JROTC program and other academic courses. The final part of the inspection had to do with Drill and Ceremony with an inspection of the precision platoon and Color Guard.

We are proud of our cadets for performing academic excellence, leadership and teamwork at such a high level.

