

NAVY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON.

February 23, 1916.

My dear General Williams:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 14, 1916, regarding the desired appointment of your son as a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps.

In reply I beg to invite your attention to the fact that existing law provides that "midshipment on graduation shall be commissioned ensigns in the Navy, or may be assigned by the Secretary of the Navy to fill vacancies in the lowest commissioned grades of the Marine Corps or Staff Corps of the Navy." In June, 1915, all vacancies in the Marine Corps were filled from the Naval Academy, and therefore it is not known whether another examination will be held.

However, the Major General Commandant of the Marine Corps has been directed to place the name and address of your son on file, should you furnish him with same, for consideration in the event the Department decides to hold another examination of civilian candidates for the Marine Corps.

Regretting my inability to give you a more favorable reply,
I am,

Sincerely yours,

Franklin D. Roosevelt
Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Brigadier General Roger D. Williams,
Commanding First Brigade, K.N. G.,
Lexington, Kentucky.