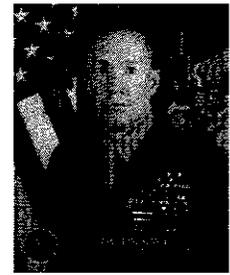




Commanding Officer's Safety Policy Statement



"Force preservation is a vital element of our combat readiness. Engaged leadership at all levels is the key to ensuring a command climate that demands the preservation of Marine Corps assets through risk management."
- MCO 5100.29B

Our mission is inherently dangerous, and demands tough, realistic, collective training to continuously sharpen our warfighting skills. Additionally, the weapons and equipment we employ can kill and maim without discrimination between friendly and enemy forces. I task leadership at all levels with ownership of the safety of every Marine and Sailor of this command. Anything less is unacceptable. At all levels, we must ensure we maintain strict adherence to published standards and procedures. Failure to do so could result in the serious bodily harm or death of our most precious asset – the individual Marine or Sailor – and will not be tolerated.

As your commander, I am charged with the overall responsibility of ensuring that all members of our Battalion are trained and prepared on the required techniques to provide a safe environment for our Marines and Sailors. While I assume full responsibility, safety is a mission that simply cannot be accomplished without the efforts of every single member of our Battalion. Safety is a team effort that requires vigilance, persistence and leadership at every level. Our officer and SNCO leaders must be actively engaged in the risk management process to ensure we mitigate potential hazards while implementing proper safety controls. Equally important, our junior leaders need to be actively engaged in safeguarding the welfare of the Marines and Sailors on their flanks, and possess the moral courage to challenge poor decisions and acts. EVERY member of our Battalion has an obligation to report unsafe acts.

The Battalion Executive Officer is officially designated as the Battalion Safety Officer. To assist him, the Battalion Motor Transport Officer serves as the Battalion Ground Safety Officer. With the Battalion Executive Officer's oversight, the Battalion Ground Safety Officer will serve as our representative to the Regimental Safety Manager, and will coordinate with the Tactical Safety Specialist (TSS) for periodic safety training and other safety related issues with all of our leaders. Furthermore, each battery will officially designate a Battery Safety Officer, appointed in writing, responsible for tracking trends and coordinating safety related training within their respective batteries.

I require your support to ensure that leaders at all levels remain vigilant on safety, both on and off-duty, and employ the proven small-unit leadership, supervision and risk management tools at the lowest level. I charge each and every leader to constantly examine their approach to safety, and bring all available tools to bear to mitigate and manage operational risk. The Joint Regimental Safety SOP (JRegtO P3570.1E), Marine Corps Safety Program (MCO 5100.29B), and Risk Management (MCO 3500.27C) orders are tools to ensure we can successfully execute tough, realistic training, and remain prepared for real world operations. Force preservation and safety awareness are essential to protecting our most precious asset – our Marines and Sailors.

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