



## 1st Battalion, 1st Marines Commanding Officer's Statement on Safety



Safety is “the condition of being safe from undergoing or causing hurt, injury, or loss.” As it pertains to the Marines and Sailors of 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, safety is inherent in our mission success. It is part of everything we do -- in garrison and in combat.

Our mission is demanding. Our success is measured not only in the performance of the task at hand, but also in preserving our resources for the next fight. Our resources are equipment, money, and time; but most importantly, our Nation has entrusted us with its most precious resource—its sons.

We all share this sacred trust; we are all in this together. Marine or Sailor, officer or enlisted, I expect each of us to:

**Lead by Example.** Do the right thing for the right reasons. Follow proper orders/rules/procedures, wear Personal Protective Equipment, do not cut corners. Be thorough and conscientious—even when no one is watching. Seniors motivate juniors; juniors inspire seniors.

**Think before you act.** Consider the risk and rewards of any course of action before embarking on it, both on and off duty. Identify and assess risks before they arise, develop and implement control measures, and then ask, “is this really worth it?” Do not accept unnecessary risk; ask for a second opinion if in doubt.

**Look out for one another.** Most accidents are preventable; help the Marine next to you make the right call, whether on the battlefield or while on liberty. We all make mistakes; help each other avoid those that lead to injury and death. When Marines are together, one is senior—always. Seek and accept the responsibility that you have earned, be a Guardian Angel; if something is not right, speak up!

Our loads are often heavy, and the injury or loss of anyone means that the rest will carry that much more. We owe each other, and our Nation, to remember the sacred trust we all share.

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