



## 3d Landing Support Battalion Commanding Officer's Safety and Force Preservation Policy Statement

Even the most perfectly executed mission becomes a failure if a Marine or Sailor is injured or killed in the process- particularly in a non-combat or training environment. We will work together as a team to minimize risks to ourselves, our fellow Marines and Sailors and our equipment by actively engaging in the Marine Corps Safety Management Systems (MCSMS). In addition to employing the MCSMS four pillars (Policy and Leadership, Risk Management, Safety Assurance, and Safety Promotion and Training), all Marines and Sailors are expected to do the following to reduce risk:

1. **Safety is a mindset.** Our profession is inherently dangerous in all circumstances, and there is no room for cavalier attitudes, cutting corners, or complacency bred out of repetition or "experience." Even the most seasoned and technically savvy professional can be a victim to complacency. *Taking care of yourselves and taking care of each other is your mission at all times.*
2. **Planning.** Safety will be an integral and fundamental aspect of everything you do and be the cornerstone of every plan you make. I expect planning Marines, whether it be for a military mission or for your liberty activities, you will plan and make risk and safety decisions part of your planning.
3. **Training.** In the course of your planning, you will identify tasks that need to be accomplished, and in doing so you will assess if you and/or your Marines and Sailors have the proper training and equipment to accomplish each task. Identifying gaps in training and experience is an essential part of planning and making risk decisions tells you how to implement safety controls and risk mitigations. Hard training, technical and tactical competence and solid common-sense leadership yields troop welfare and safe operations.
4. **Personal Accountability.** Having the right mindset, planning, and training are all essential elements to mishap-free operations, but personal accountability is where it all comes together. Are you personally disciplined enough to incorporate safety in everything you undertake? Are you disciplined enough to methodically assess risks in your planning? Are you disciplined enough to hold yourself accountable for the training and experience gaps you identify? Are you accountable enough to actually DO all of the above then implement controls? Talking about safety and putting it on a PowerPoint presentation is not enough – you have to be *personally accountable* and actually *execute safety*.
5. **Engaged Leadership.** Supervision is the true safety net. All leaders will make a dedicated effort to know their Marines and communicate with them frequently, listening and teaching, and be involved in their daily work and lives so that they are comfortable that steps 1-4 above have been taken properly so that risks are mitigated and our most cherished resource, our Marines and Sailors, are taken care of first.

By integrating safety into every facet of our existence, we not only mitigate risk but also enhance our effectiveness and readiness to fulfill our mission requirements.

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