



SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL SECOND MARINE AIRCRAFT WING



Aviation is an inherently dangerous business. With that being said, my position on safety is this: as your Commander, mission accomplishment, not safety, is my primary objective. However, safety is the great enabler which facilitates 2d Marine Aircraft Wing operating at the highest standard of proficiency, far beyond that of our enemy, while reducing losses of personnel and assets. Command Safety Programs are a force multiplier, and when implemented correctly, are proven to save lives and enhance our mission capability.

We must always be prepared to engage an enemy whose solitary purpose is to kill us. Standing ready to fight constantly evolving forces while operating in dynamic environments mean we will never be able to completely eliminate the red threat; however, we will continue to mitigate it through training, supervision, and evaluations of proficiency. Unit Commanders shall ensure that training is conducted safely and properly in order to maintain my vision of a combat effective force.

Despite a very genuine red threat, our greatest deterrent to mission success continues to be the blue threat. We have the programs and procedures in place to mitigate mishaps but they still consume the lives of Marines and Sailors and cause a reduction of our material assets. True professionals take a dedicated and consistent approach to their work and are always striving to improve. I expect nothing less from Marines. I expect all Marines to follow proper protocols and procedures and challenge anyone who does not. Detailed supervision reduces errors and if a mistake is made, limits the magnitude, preventing injury, death, or damage to equipment. You may not only be saving yourself, you may also be saving your fellow Marine.

Supervision of Marines while off duty poses a unique challenge. Utilize intrusive leadership to know and understand your Marines. Make it your responsibility to know everything that is going on in that Marine's life. Failure to do so is negligence.

Unit Commanders shall apply Operational Risk Management (ORM) to all aspects of command. You are responsible for the implementation and oversight of an effective and participative program. Additionally, ORM should be conducted at any level where a leadership decision is being made. My approach to safety has a common theme: supervision. Communicate your intent and then supervise the safe and efficient execution. When mistakes happen, restrict the severity and communicate the results so that preventative measures can be made and implemented across all aspects of aviation. My safety department is here to help not to hinder, so use them.

The bottom line, being aviation professionals and exercising good leadership as Marines will keep us safe.


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