



HMLA-167 SAFETY POLICY

Reference: 5100.29C

Make no mistake, our profession is dangerous. But this does not mean we idly accept the associated risks, nor do we simply avoid risk as a means to prevent loss. As professional warfighters we manage risk in order to operate effectively and accomplish our mission safely.

However, *safety* is misunderstood. Safety is not the absence of consequence. It is not a priority, it is not something that can be reprioritized. It is not an additive task, a matrix, nor is it a checklist. Safety does not impede tactical execution; in fact, safety and tactics are inextricably intertwined. Blatant disregard for either forfeits the advantage to the enemy and leaves us susceptible to failure. If you are not being safe, you are not being tactical – and vice versa.

Safety is a cultural value, a mindset, and a desired outcome – it is a byproduct of professionalism and prudence.

We must inculcate our culture with safety values – values guide our actions. Thus, we will instill accountability, reporting, and learning into the Warrior's culture. As professional warfighters, we will hold ourselves accountable, we will report mishaps and incidents, and most importantly, we will learn from these events. These values are critical to the success of our squadron and must be infused into how we act and how we think about safety – our mindset.

Our safety mindset must be iterative, habitual in nature, and purposeful. We must continuously assess our environment and think about what actions we need to take in the present to achieve safe outcomes in the future. *Through this prudent lens, we will accomplish our mission safely.*

All Warriors have an obligation to manage risk and the inherent right to speak up and prevent an unsafe action or event from occurring. This applies to all that we do, whether we're conducting ground training, maintaining aircraft, flying, or partaking in off-duty activities.

Our safety mindset, underpinned by our cultural values, will enable us to mitigate risk and achieve our mission safely – this is what Warriors do.

Have Guns - Will Travel

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