



HMLA-269 COMMAND PHILOSOPHY

The Mission of HMLA-269 is to support the MAGTF Commander by providing Offensive Air Support, Utility Support, Armed Escort, and Supporting Arms Coordination, day or night, under all weather conditions during expeditionary, joint or combined operations.

As Gunrunners, we will train to thrive in any clime and place. When our nation calls, the Gunrunners will be **LETHAL**, **READY**, and **PROFESSIONAL**:

- ★ **LETHALITY:** The HMLA is uniquely designed to thrive in any environment while conducting operations that disrupt, contest and confront malign behavior. We will posture to sense, shoot, survive and sustain in any clime and place, while ensuring we are effective as kill web enablers and effectors. **Bottom line, the HMLA is comprised of gunships that are designed to inflict devastatingly lethal effects on the battlefield and eliminate our nation's enemies when tasked to do so.**
- ★ **READINESS:** We cannot be lethal if we are not ready. **Readiness depends on the condition of our most valuable assets – our Marines and our Machines.** Readiness pertains to all aspects of our profession: unit readiness, aircraft readiness, individual readiness, and family readiness.
 - ★ **Marines:** Every Marine and Sailor in HMLA-269 is critical to mission success. Gunrunners must always come to work ready to Fly, Fix, and Fight. MOS proficiency is key to unit readiness; however, work-life balance is critical. **The Gunrunner tribe must ensure all our Marines and Sailors and their families are taken care of.**
 - ★ **Machines:** We require ready aircraft, tools and equipment to execute our mission and train our aircrew. Gunrunners will ensure our aircraft are meticulously maintained through disciplined maintenance and strict adherence to technical publications. Take pride in our aircraft, our equipment and our spaces.
- ★ **PROFESSIONALISM:** HMLA-269 has always been and will continue to be a unit with a reputation for exceptional professional excellence. **The Gunrunners maintain a high standard in the pursuit of personal and professional excellence.** Gunrunners will pass our inspections, fly our flight hours, and expend our allotted ordnance. Our professionalism will be evident by our ability to hit an assigned Time on Target (TOT) when expending ordnance, L-Hours when conducting Combat Assault Transport (CAT) and shooting Danger Close with accuracy and precision.

I'm humbled and honored to be a part of this team. Together we comprise the First and the Finest.

PROTECT THE INNOCENT – PUNISH THE GUILTY

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL JENS "MERICA" GILBERTSON
COMMANDING OFFICER, MARINE LIGHT ATTACK HELICOPTER SQUADRON 269**

