

COMMANDING OFFICER'S SAFETY POLICY

"Whether during training, maintenance or recreation, keep safety and protection in mind."



Mission accomplishment is impossible if we don't protect our Marines, Sailors, Civilians, and warfighting assets. The preservation of those resources must always be a priority. Whether during training, maintenance or recreation, keep safety and protection in mind.

Serving the in the military is a noble, but occasionally dangerous, calling. To minimize this danger, we must dedicate ourselves to professional excellence at all times. Professional excellence means we can relax off duty but still must ALWAYS stop to think before we act. Have a backup plan for the worst case scenario, and be prepared to intervene when things are going wrong. Leadership is the keystone. Hold yourself and others accountable. Don't break the rules and don't take shortcuts.

The Marine Corps excels at mitigating risk in combat in order to inflict maximum damage to our enemy while preserving the ability to fight the next fight, and the one after that. Adapt these same basic combat principles for every activity, in garrison or deployed. Pre Combat Checks (PCC) and Pre Combat Inspections (PCI) save lives and buy down risk. I expect all members of H&S Bn to know and comply with established rules and regulations both on duty and off duty.

Before every evolution ask yourself this simple question: what is different this time? Look for the small but subtle changes that can lead to mistakes and mishaps. Maintaining your pre-briefed game plan and recognizing when to 'pause and drink water' to reflect and reassess the risk is critical to maintaining the force. Discipline in execution preserves our most precious asset - the individual Marine, Sailor, and Civilian - so we can be the most ready when our nation calls.

Force preservation and safety is a leadership issue for all ranks. We are all safety officers and anyone who sees unsafe acts or practices is charged to take action to correct the situation. As soon as you see a mistake and don't fix it, it's your mistake.

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Hammond'.

Jeff Hammond

Col USMC