



**COMMANDING GENERAL
1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING**

Safety Policy
1 August 2011



As the Commanding General of 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, my responsibility is to ensure that our war fighting capability and readiness are maintained at the highest level. We work tirelessly to bring danger to the enemies of our nation while working equally hard to eliminate or reduce danger to ourselves. I cannot envision an event that will ever warrant accepting unmanaged risk. Although I expect we will take advantage of every prudent training and operational employment opportunity that becomes available and that we will continue to train aggressively, preservation of our combat assets, both personnel and materiel, will be our foremost concern.

1st MAW will aggressively manage risks in our own activities by complying with established policies and procedures and executing sound judgment. 1st MAW Marines and Sailors must adhere to established, proven standard operating procedures and instructions to mitigate risk in our inherently hazardous profession. We will consider the “what ifs” and “what bad could happen” as part of every formal and informal plan we develop. Whether it is an “off duty” event, a training event or an actual operation, we will properly plan so that we anticipate rather than react. The bottom line is that safety results from professional operations conducted where the mission is clearly understood, personnel are well trained, and individuals know their limitations and are disciplined not to exceed them.

Though the focus of this policy is clearly on operations, my greatest safety concern lies in the everyday decisions we all make whether on liberty or leave. Statistics have shown that driving and recreational accidents happen far more frequently than they should. Every member of this organization will be expected to manage the risks associated with these seemingly routine activities, just as we do with our work place activities. Again, I expect that each of you will consider the “what ifs” and “what bad could happen” in your everyday decision making processes, that you will take care of one another and provide sound judgment where it appears to be lacking. Leaders and supervisors at all levels must be ready to say “STOP!” I count on you to break the chain of events that all too often lead to mishaps or mission failures.

Semper Fidelis,

W. D. BEYDLER
Major General, U. S. Marine Corps
Commanding General
1st Marine Aircraft Wing