



COMMANDING OFFICER'S STATEMENT ON SAFETY



Military and civilian personnel aboard Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point are our most vital assets in the conduct of our mission. We must do all that we can to enhance our readiness and mission effectiveness by preserving these assets. Any time we encounter a careless loss of life or preventable injuries due to mishaps our readiness and effectiveness are reduced. To prevent this, our culture must embrace an innovative approach to maintaining and improving safe practices aboard the Air Station during operations, training, and recreation.

Safety is a product of operational excellence. It is central to the idea of readiness and should be incorporated in our actions on duty or while on liberty. Leaders at every level must guard against reckless behavior both as it jeopardizes the health, safety, and combat readiness.

All personnel must understand and ensure:

- Safety is everyone's personal responsibility. Each person must actively identify hazards and mitigate risk to maintain individual and unit readiness.
- Safety is part of doing business right. Reinforce good practices and call out the bad ones.
- Be assertive and challenge unsafe actions in the workplace or on liberty. We all make mistakes – learn from them and move on.
- When hazards are identified, they are appropriately handled or mitigated and not ignored.

The most important facet of every successful safety program is leadership. At all levels, leadership is the fundamental means to prevent accidental death, injury, and equipment damage.

While risk is inherent in many things that we do, we must learn to mitigate it regardless of operational complexity. We must continue to provide realistic training balanced with a strong emphasis on risk mitigation while applying the same principles and procedures equally to our off-duty activities. Collectively, we must strive to take care of one another and preserve our most important warfighting assets – our Marines, Sailors, and Civilians.

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