



Commanding Officer's Policy on Safety

The purpose of this policy is to maintain our combat readiness by preserving our most valuable resources: our Marines, Sailors and their families.

Per Marine Corps Order 5100.29B, force preservation is a vital element of our combat readiness; deaths and injuries resulting from mishaps decrement our combat readiness. As I have previously stated, the purpose of this battalion is success in combat, and a shared trust is critical to this success. Needlessly placing a Marine or Sailor in an unsafe situation is a betrayal of their trust. We cannot expect Marines and Sailors to willfully make the sacrifices we will ask of them in combat if we have betrayed this fundamental trust.

Risk is inherent in our training and operations. Risk is also inherent in our off-duty activities, as well. We will mitigate these risks through teaching and practicing effective application of operational risk management at every level and an overall commitment to safe practices, both on and off duty. Never will we needlessly or recklessly place our Marines and Sailors, our friends and families, or ourselves in danger. Dismissing safety concerns will not be tolerated.

This is a leadership issue, and I expect leaders to lead.

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Cooper, Jr.' with a stylized flourish.

Carl E. Cooper, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Commanding