

10 July 2020

COMMANDING OFFICER'S SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY



Mission accomplishment remains our number one priority. The loss of any Marine or Sailor undermines our ability to accomplish our mission as a battalion.

We are in a people business. We succeed by the heroic and herculean efforts of our personnel. We invest in their development on a daily basis by teaching, training, coaching and mentoring. It is not enough for our Marines and Sailors to be tactically and technically proficient. We must be physically, mentally, morally, and spiritually strong to endure the horrific tasks that we will perform in the harshest of environments. We must be prepared to leave our families for extended periods of time on short notice, defend our Constitution and overcome difficult challenges with whole minds and spirits.

Every Marine and Sailor in 1/12 is a leader. I charge each of you to step up as leaders in preventing our fellow Marines, Sailors, and family members from committing any self-harm. Be vigilant; know your people, understand their flaws, and get them the help they need to succeed. Train them hard for what they will endure and care for their development. Know yourselves, seek self-improvement and ask for help when you are hurting.

Never try to handle life's problems on your own. Close ranks when one of our Marines or Sailors falls out to the rear. Seek help from the Chain-of-Command, Chaplain, MFLC, Medical Officer, and OSCAR. Our goal is to develop young men and women in service of our Nation and to return strong, smart, resilient citizens to America upon completion of a successful term of service. Suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem. Every one of us has a part to play in suicide prevention and mission success.



RICHARD P. NEIKIRK

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Commanding Officer

