

10 July 2020

# COMMANDING OFFICER'S POLICY ON VIOLENCE PREVENTION

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the safety of our Marines, Sailors, Civilians and their families.

Per Marine Corps Order 5580.3, violence prevention includes efforts to assess, investigate, mitigate and respond to behaviors that may precede acts of harassment, intimidation, threats, violence, as well as behaviors consistent with radicalization and insider threats. In many situations, an act of violence is preceded by some form of behavior that signals the violence to come. Understanding this phenomenon affords us the opportunity to recognize those precipitating behaviors and implement preventive response courses of action.



The shared trust that builds a team and fosters teamwork is critical to the battalion's combat readiness. Failing to ensure the safety of our Marines, Sailors, civilians and their families is a betrayal of this trust. We cannot expect our Marines and Sailors to willingly make the sacrifices we will ask of them in combat if we betray this fundamental trust. Leadership is the key to violence prevention. Leaders develop a climate that discourages unlawful violence and encourages increased reporting of warning signs/indicators of potential violence.

Harassment, intimidation, threats, violence and other disruptive behavior in our workplace will not be tolerated. Such behavior can include oral or written statements, gestures, or expressions that communicate a direct or indirect threat of physical harm. Do not ignore warning signs/indicators of potential violence or harassing, intimidating, violent, threatening or other disruptive behavior; identifying these early and intervening can de-escalate the potential of a violent act. If you observe or experience such behavior by anyone, whether he or she is a unit member or not, report it immediately. All leaders, who receive such reports shall seek advice from the Battalion Violence Prevention Officer (VPO). Threats that require immediate law enforcement involvement, assaults and other suspected crimes, will be reported immediately to the Provost Marshal's Office (PMO) by contacting 911 or (808)-257-2123.



RICHARD P. NEIKIRK

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding Officer