



3D BATTALION, 3D MARINES COMMANDER'S SAFETY POLICY

As the Commanding Officer, my responsibility is to ensure that our warfighting capability and readiness are maintained at the highest level. Every Marine, Sailor, and civilian within 3d Battalion, 3d Marines is critical to our mission-success. Since everything we do is inherently dangerous, we will aggressively manage risk by complying with established policies and procedures. The key is supervision. By questioning something that doesn't look right or by having the courage to say "stop,"

leaders avert mishaps every day.

The acceptance of unmanaged risk is dereliction of duty. As stewards of this Nation's most valued assets, we are charged with safeguarding our combat capabilities, both personnel and materiel. All hands will play their role in reducing needless, preventable injuries, property damage, and occupational illness. We must all use a proactive approach that identifies, reports, and corrects potential safety and health hazards before they occur. By incorporating risk management and occupational health into our planning and operating procedures, we can provide the optimal environment to work, train, and operate.

Safe practices and procedures must also extend to our off-duty activities. Road trips, travel, motorcycle activities, water sports, and other pursuits require as much preparation and operational risk management as does predeployment training and ongoing warfighting tasks. Off-duty mishaps are routinely attributed to poor planning and preparation to address risk factors.

Marine Corps, III Marine Expeditionary Force, 3d Marine Division orders provide safety policy and guidance. However, these orders are only the basis for developing an aggressive and effective safety program. The responsibility for the practical application of the safety program lies with each commander, officer-in-charge, staff member and leader at every level. Every Marine must take an active interest in safety. We are all Safety Officers! Risk management will be integrated into all we do.

I challenge each of you to demonstrate the leadership, diligence, and perseverance required for the safe and efficient execution of our training, operations, and off-duty activities. Be vigilant, be smart, and stay safe!

S. J. Eastin
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