Commander's Safety and Force Preservation Policy

Safety, Risk Management, and Force Preservation are mutually dependent. All missions of Headquarters and Service Battalion are equally important; however, it does not warrant unmitigated risk. Safety and Occupational Health accountability and responsibility will be built into all mission activities. Nothing we do on a daily basis is worth risking serious injury or death to one of our Marines, Sailors or civilian teammates. We must make safety a critical part of everything we do.

We will comply with the following safety principles:

- Identify hazards and take actions to correct them.
- Report all unsafe and unhealthy working conditions immediately.
- Remain vigilant about the readiness, safety, and condition of equipment.
- Aggressively challenge unsafe actions of others.
- Adhere to published safety standards and use sound professional judgement.
- Wear proper Personnel Protective Equipment when required.
- Break the chain of events that lead up to accidents before they occur.
- Practice motor vehicle and or motorcycle safety as daily routine.
- Exercise sound planning, precaution, and decision making on leave and liberty.

Inhibiting mishaps is a high priority of this Battalion. Each team member is empowered with the ability to resolve safety issues; consider the “what if’s” and the “what bad things could happen” in your everyday decision making process, both on duty and off duty. I expect anyone who spots an unsafe situation to take action and correct it. If that is not possible, bring it to the attention of leadership immediately.

Safety responsibilities also extend to leave and liberty. Historically, we lose more Marines to off-duty mishaps than we do to on-duty mishaps. For this reason, leave travel plans will be approved by the chain of command and liberty limits will be enforced, as will orders and directives governing leave and liberty.

Finally, our family members are another valuable part of our Henderson Hall team. Mission accomplishment is key to our success; however, all missions start and end with the family. Let’s ensure we remain vigilant of their needs and make certain to including them in all our safety initiatives.

We will not cut corners on safety for any reason! For additional information, contact the Director of Safety at (703) 614-1900.

Semper Fidelis,

Robert L. Wiser
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps