



POLICY STATEMENT ON SAFETY
COMMANDING GENERAL
4TH MARINE AIRCRAFT WING



As a United States Marine, you are the most critical element in our safety chain, and our most valuable asset. Leaders at all levels must foster a culture of safety and empower Marines to manage risk at the appropriate levels. A culture of safety enables warfighting, lethality, and combat success. Each unit will have its own Safety Management System (SMS) with assigned personnel and deliberate procedures to identify hazards, assess risk, and implement safety controls. By identifying risks, communicating those risks to higher, and using sound mitigation tools, we preserve our Marines, Sailors, vehicles and aircraft for the fight.

There is nothing we do in training that is worth the loss of life, limb or materiel. At all times and at all levels, we will apply risk management principles to what we do. Do not "bend the rules" to meet operational requirements when operational necessity has not been deemed necessary. Please take the time to step back, evaluate, and communicate a situation that you feel is off or unsafe. Training time outs, taking a knee; these are all invaluable to the preservation of our Force.

Force design and modernization has brought many changes to our formations, equipment, and how we fight. You have probably heard the phrase, "change is the mother of all risk". This could not be truer than today as we prepare for a near peer fight in a resource constrained environment. Before every evolution or maintenance event, ask yourself and your fellow Marines:

- What has changed today?
- Can that change harm or kill us?
- What is the most hazardous portion of today's event?

We are all professionals. Ultimately, nothing can stop the freewill of an individual, but through communication, leadership and our devotion to duty, we can save assets, time, and most importantly, lives.

Semper Fidelis

Brigadier General Patrick F. Tiernan
Commanding General, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing