



Marine Unmanned Aircraft Squadron 3
(VMU-3)

Policy on Crisis and Emergency Notification

LtCol B. H. "Fonzie" Schreiner

21 Dec 2015



We live in a world of chaos and we do not have to be deployed to foreign soil for crisis to have an impact on us. It is not enough for us just to be ready for potential combat operations abroad, we must ensure that we as a squadron are prepared to handle crisis at home.

Crisis can be defined to include, but not limited to: aircraft crashes, vehicle collisions, natural disasters, or any accidents or incidents that cause panic, injury, or death. Regardless of where we are, our priorities during a time of crisis will be to:

1. Survive and Safeguard until the imminent danger has passed.
2. Conduct accountability to ensure accurate and timely reports / notifications as required. (This may require Squadron-wide recalls and/or multiple musters).
3. Pass directions and information
4. Regroup, Refit and Return things to as close to normal as possible.

For Fatalities and Serious Injuries notification to the Primary Next of Kin (PNOK) is a critical step and therefore it is understandable that out of respect for the family we are mandated that no other information will be passed until the PNOK have been notified. These notifications will be done by the Commanding Officer or a designated representative. This is difficult for everyone, but please keep in mind the obligations and respect we will have for the families.

In situations where directions and guidance need to be disseminated, like in cases of Terrorist Threats or incoming Natural Disasters (i.e., Hurricanes, Tsunamis, Tropical Storms). There will not always be something to pass but if there is something to be passed, it will be passed quickly and it will be passed through multiple channels.

In either situation it is the Responsibility of the Individual to ensure they and their family/friends are as prepared as possible for crisis. This includes but is not limited to: Record of Emergency Data (RED), Wills, Powers of Attorney (POA), ATFP, Survival Kits, Home/Quarters Prep, Vehicle Prep, etc. It is also important for the individuals to pass word, be available, and be patient during the times of chaos.

The role of the Command is to ensure that we are accomplishing the 4 priorities in order. That is to say that after we survive and safeguard, our focus will be on the accountability and notification. Once we get to the third step and we need to pass directions and information we will push the word via multiple channels including the number one way to communicate with the families and that is through the individual Marines and Sailors. To accomplish these priorities we will use Official Communications (i.e., phone messages, newsletters, gatherings and social media) to help keep our families informed and to reduce the unknowns and rumors; Although many folks utilize social media, depending on the nature of the crisis we probably will not use it as our primary method.

To take care of the Phantoms I must ensure we are able to handle and reduce traumatic events, and that our families are taken care of during times of crisis and chaos (i.e., disasters, losses, etc.). My number one focus for the Phantoms / Families is that they get the best support possible during the worst of times.

The Marines, Sailors, and family members of VMU-3 are our most precious assets and we will protect them through our courage, discipline, and high standards. We are an organization of performance and pride and we will not tolerate things that jeopardize our mission, our ranks, the fair treatment of others, or the standards of our services. **"Phantoms are: Maximum Impact - No Drama...On Time – On Target"**

Semper Fidelis,

B. H. "Fonzie" SCHREINER
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer, VMU-3 PHANTOMS