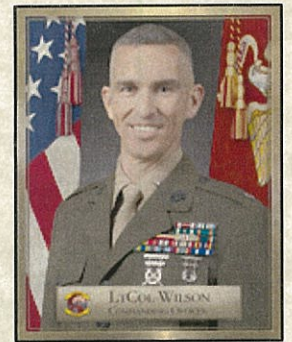




Marine Wing Support Squadron 172 Commanding Officer's Policy Statement on

Safety



Safety is a Readiness issue. We must enable everyone to execute missions on and off duty safely to ensure each Firebird is ready and available if/when a crisis or contingency arises. This policy statement outlines MWSS-172's safety program and is intended to set the conditions for establishing a climate of safety throughout the Squadron.

Serious mishaps are often the result of individuals cutting corners, hurrying, or taking unnecessary risks. They are also often the result of leaders failing to supervise and enforce standing policies. This Squadron's approach to safety will address both the Operator and the Supervisor, as they are co-equal in preventing mishaps.

We will employ Operational Risk Management for every operation we undertake. The process has two parts: first, it helps identify risks and the potential severity and likelihood of those risks; then, it helps both Operators and Supervisors develop ways to mitigate the severity and/or likelihood of those risks prior to execution. With properly executed risk management, we are left with the minimum risk possible (there is never zero risk – the goal is to minimize it to an acceptable degree).

The Squadron Executive Officer is the Safety Officer. There will be one Staff Non Commissioned Officer at all times who serves as his assistant in these endeavors. Together, they will help me ensure that the squadron is completing all necessary training, taking necessary operational pauses, and creating an atmosphere where every Marine and Sailor is properly empowered to be a Safety Officer. We will maintain an anonymous reporting program (ANYMOUSE) to ensure any Firebird can let the command know about a safety issue without fear of reprisal from supervisors.

Safety is about teamwork and communication. I need everyone's help in identifying and mitigating risks. Our personnel are our most precious asset – everyone has a hand in ensuring the safety of their fellow Firebirds.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. Wilson".

LtCol Wilson
Commanding Officer