



Commanding Officer's Policy on Safety



Safety is a byproduct of discipline and professionalism. Without the latter, we cannot achieve the former. I expect MTACS-18 Marines and Sailors to be both disciplined and professional in all we do.

As we face risk while moving and setting up equipment, driving vehicles, working on our gear, and participating in liberty activities, we must recognize and guard ourselves against a wide variety of hazards. We cannot allow our Marines or Sailors to be injured or equipment to be damaged or lost due to complacency or a lapse in situational awareness.

Not adhering to safety policies increases risk and the likelihood of injury or equipment damage. Ignorance is not an excuse. We are all responsible for safety. Marines and Sailors must know how to safely do their job and execute liberty activities; they must know the specific safety orders and practices relative to both. MTACS-18 leaders are responsible for ensuring our young Marines and Sailors have the knowledge, tools, and supervision required to avoid unnecessary risk while executing their mission.

Though it is impossible to remove all risk, we are charged to reduce it to acceptable levels by identifying and mitigating risk through sound judgment and decision making. Risk management (RM) works. Applied correctly, RM will help leaders and individuals reduce risk levels in any situation. Whether executing a tactical mission or a liberty mission, we must be conscious of the dangers associated with our activities and apply the appropriate controls.

Safety incidents are caused by complacency, negligence, poor decision making/judgment, or a combination of these things. Repetitive action or inaction over time, combined with unmanaged risk, will eventually result in injury or even death. On the other hand, engaged leaders making sound risk decisions and instilling a risk-management mindset throughout their area of influence will result in a positive safety culture.

Each of you are critical to this Squadron's success. The Corps and the Squadron need you.

A. R. KRUKOW

Lieutenant Colonel, United States Marine Corps

Commanding Officer