

Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group – 36
Safety Policy

We are not a risk adverse organization and we will train like we are going to fight in MAG-36. However, we will also strictly adhere to established procedures and not cut corners or act recklessly on and off-duty. We have sat through the safety classes and been trained on risk management so I expect every Marine and Sailor to know how to **assess risks** and effectively **implement controls** to **mitigate those risks** to an acceptable level. The fact is we damage and destroy more equipment and hurt more people during routine peacetime training than during combat operations. The sad truth about this statistic is that most of the mishaps were avoidable if only someone intervened and stopped the chain-of-events from occurring. This applies to all aviation and ground mishaps, to include recreational.



We need to **be proactive** when it comes to safety and exercise the moral courage to **speak up** when safety is in question. This is especially true during off-base liberty. We need to approach off-base liberty with the same mindset as we approach training or combat. It all starts with developing a good plan that is safe and executable. Whether it is going to a night club or to the beach, having a solid plan that accounts for all the risks will keep you safe and out of trouble.

I care deeply about each and every one of you Marines and Sailors. We are a team and more importantly we are a family. There is nothing I fear more than losing one of you during my tenure in command, especially to an avoidable mishap. I am asking all of you to look out for your teammates, to take action when you see something that is not right, and to voice your concerns when you feel unsafe conditions exist. My door is always open to you when it comes to safety. If you prefer to remain anonymous, then use the drop box in the MAG-36 safety department, but don't be silent if you know a safety concern exists. Safety is all about doing the right thing, even if it means doing the hard thing!


J. F. HARP