



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



Safety is paramount in all we do - both on and off duty. Our most treasured asset is our people followed by our equipment. We must create a challenging BUT safe environment for all Firebirds to **Survive, Strive, and Thrive**.

Safety requires the process of Risk Management (RM). Risk Management assists us in making informed decisions in order to reduce or offset risk, thereby increasing operational effectiveness and the probability of mission success. It is a systematic, cyclical **process of identifying hazards and assessing and controlling the associated risks.** This process is applicable across the Squadron's tasks and activities, both on and off duty. Proper Risk Management and supervision will also improve force preservation and readiness.

Risk Management enables leaders at all levels to use **sound judgement and make good decisions** regarding hazards and activities in order to prevent or reduce mishaps. It also provides a method for individuals to know what risks look like and what safe activities looks like through risk mitigation. Risk Management is a life skill but is **only effective with constant vigilance and discipline.** Bottom line, **our goal is zero mishaps caused by our own negligence or carelessness!**

An emphasis will be placed on safety during all operations, exercises, and events whether we are in garrison or deployed. We cannot afford to degrade or lose people or equipment from reckless or careless behavior. Leaders will use **In-Depth, Deliberate, or Time Critical** Risk Management procedures based on time and resources.

The Squadron will comply with applicable Marine Corps Orders regarding **safety meetings, annual training, safety inspections, and associated programs** (e.g. Motorcycle Safety, Hearing Protection, Ammunition and Explosives). Feedback on the Safety Program is critical. The Squadron will retain **ANYMOUSE boxes to encourage feedback** from any rank without fear of reprisal. **Annual Ground Safety Climate Surveys** will also provide safety feedback.

Intervention is essential to safety. Any Marine or sailor has the authority to halt activities if they see an unsafe situation, environment, person, action, or activity. We must look out for each other at all times, including off-duty activities. The majority of safety mishaps occur off duty and involve motor vehicles or recreational activities (swimming, diving, etc.). Remember, **nobody is 10 feet tall and bullet-proof – act accordingly.** If you see unsafe behaviors, please stop them and report them through the Chain of Command or Anymouse box.

The Squadron's Safety Officer is the Squadron Logistics Officer. A Safety NCO and various safety representatives will be appointed to assist with safety efforts. Safety representatives will be appointed as Risk Management Instructors (RMI) to provide safety training. I also direct all Officers and SNCOs to read the references below, implement Risk Management activities, and gather implementable ideas to improve safety.

Supervision is essential to safety. Leaders must ensure not only that people are being safe, but situations and environments are also as safe as possible.

*MCO 3500.27C Risk Management
MCO 5100.29B Marine Corps Safety Program
SqdrnO 1050.2A Leave and Liberty
SqdrnO 5000-81 A-Driver Ground Guide SOP
SqdrnO 5100.1 Force Preservation
SqdrnO 5420 Human Factors*



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