



**U.S. MARINE CORPS FORCES COMMAND  
U.S. MARINE CORPS FORCES, EUROPE  
FORCE PRESERVATION POLICY STATEMENT**

The safety of our Marines, Sailors, and Civilians is critical for every leader and unit in U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command (MARFORCOM) and U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Europe (MARFOREUR). Safety is a habit and a mindset. It is a mission-to-mission thought process that needs our individual and collective attention twenty four hours a day, seven days per week, three hundred and sixty five days per year. We owe it to our country, to our Marine Corps, and to our people to win this "fight" and preserve our most valuable resource - the individual Marine, Sailor and Civilian. The enemies of safe practices are: Complacency, anxiety, a lack of supervision, lethargy, forgetfulness, and over-zealousness. Subtle as they may be, they are nonetheless a formidable team of opponents and can be lethal if left unchecked. Our processes for hazard identification and risk mitigation must be continuous and must apply to all members of this command regardless of grade, experience, or billet.

Behavioral health issues and preventable mishaps during operations, training, and recreation are quickly becoming our most dangerous enemies to both combat operations abroad and force preservation at home. Our non-hostile injuries and fatalities often surpass our combat losses. This is truly tragic because they are in most cases preventable. The use of Operational Risk Management (ORM) TTPs are key to the safe conduct of any event. These TTPs are clearly defined by: Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs), Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs), proven safe practices, and common sense. Adherence to these four critical elements will ensure we always do things professionally and safely. Leaders and the Marines and Sailors in their charge at all levels, must be educated on the issues that hinder our force preservation objectives and our warfighting ability, both on and off duty. Commanders and leaders at all levels must ensure that Marines, Sailors, and Civilians under their charge are properly educated, mentored, and supervised at every level, and on every mission incorporating continuous risk evaluation and mitigation, utilizing existing behavioral health programs and guides.

History and example prove to us that education and supervision work in tactical situations and just as successfully when assessing and ensuring safety. I encourage everyone, particularly Commanders and leaders, to develop, exemplify, and enforce a 24/7/365 safety mindset. Our Corps and our people deserve nothing less. Accomplish the mission and stay safe. Semper Fidelis!

ROBERT B. NELLER

LIEUTENANT GENERAL

Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command

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