



COMMANDING OFFICER 1ST SUPPLY BATTALION  
STATEMENT ON



## Command Philosophy

Marines and Sailors,

I am honored to be your Commanding Officer and to serve with you at 1st Supply Battalion. I look forward to getting to know each and every one of you and to working with you in the months ahead. The following constitutes my Command Philosophy and the areas I consider most important:

People – Our people and their families are our most precious resources and we must take care of them. In the short time I have been here, I have been extremely impressed with the tremendous quality of our people. To continue to maximize our potential, we need ENGAGED leadership at all levels. Know your people personally and professionally and look out for their welfare. Challenge them and empower them to be our Corps' future leaders and ultimately better citizens. Work hard but *do it with balance!* For those with families, remember that they will be around long after you leave the Marine Corps or Navy, so invest in them.

Look out for each other – The Corps is a brother/sisterhood. We put the Marine and Sailor to our right and left before ourselves. Every one of you is important; to your families, your friends, your companies and sections, and to the Sergeant Major and me. Treat others with respect and how you want to be treated. My red lines are lying, cheating, stealing, hazing, harassment, sexual assault, and discrimination - these will not be tolerated.

Combat Readiness and Proficiency – At 1st Supply Battalion, you are the glue that holds I Marine Expeditionary Force together. The intermediate supply support you provide enables I MEF Marines and Sailors to be fed, clothed, equipped, armed, powered, medically sustained, lethal, and fully combat ready. Ultimately, we are paid to be able to perform our demanding mission in combat. We must make effective use of our time in garrison and the field, to prepare as if we are deploying tomorrow. Strive to be the best leader, warrior, and specialist at your MOS that you can be. You are part of a select family and team and when we do our individual jobs well, our team succeeds.

Integrity – Integrity defines who we are; how we make our decisions, our priorities, our work ethic, and how we treat others. C.S. Lewis said, "Integrity is doing the right thing, *even when no one is watching.*" Integrity must be the foundation of all we do at 1st Supply Battalion. If we have men and women of character, there are no challenges we cannot overcome. I expect us to embody these aspects of good character: Personal responsibility, servant leadership, and humility.

Brilliance in the Basics and Discipline – The organization that does the basic things well, will succeed. Uphold Marine Corps standards, customs, and courtesies. Be professional and on time! Be a man or woman of your word. Account for your people and equipment. Keep your living areas, working areas, weapons, and equipment clean and maintained. Be physically fit. Wear your uniform and gear correctly. Do not take shortcuts. Be capable of passing an inspection at any time – "*sustained excellence over time*" is our standard.

Win – Whenever we face a challenge, task, or mission, we will find a way to succeed. This means that we will exhibit a "can-do" attitude regardless of the circumstances. Success does not mean "winning at all costs," rather it means succeeding within the bounds of integrity and "others before self."

I am honored to serve alongside you as we continue to build upon 1st Supply Battalion's already superb reputation.

**Col Siebrand H. Niewenhou IV**  
Commanding Officer  
1st Supply Battalion