



7th Engineer Support Battalion
COMMANDING OFFICER'S
Statement on Safety and Force Preservation



"Force preservation is a vital element of our combat readiness. Engaged leadership at all levels is the key to ensuring a command climate that demands the preservation of Marine Corps assets through risk management."

- MCO 5100.29B

Ours is an inherently dangerous profession. Leaders at all levels must remain vigilant to potential unsafe conditions and take decisive, corrective action. All members of this Battalion have a responsibility to ensure not only their own safety, but that of their fellow Marines and Sailors. Understand and comply with safety regulations and standard operating procedures (SOPs), use common sense, and watch out for each other.

Safety is a mission that simply cannot be accomplished without the efforts of every single member of our Battalion. We must not allow complacency to set in. If you see something unsafe I expect you to take action. We cannot be bystanders. **See something, say/do something.** Safety is a team effort that requires vigilance, persistence, and leadership at every level. Our officer and SNCO leaders must be actively engaged in the risk management process to ensure we mitigate potential hazards while implementing proper safety controls. Equally important, our junior leaders need to be actively engaged in safeguarding the welfare of the Marines and Sailors, and possess the moral courage to challenge poor decisions and acts.

Leaders at all levels must create an atmosphere of trust where Marines and Sailors are comfortable reporting hazards without fear of reprisal. They must remain vigilant, both on and off duty, and employ small unit leadership, supervision, and risk management tools at the lowest level.

EVERY member of our Battalion has an obligation to report unsafe acts. I charge each and every leader to constantly refine their approach to safety, and use all available tools and resources to mitigate and manage operational risk.

Force Preservation and safety awareness are essential to protecting our most precious resource - the individual Marine and Sailor. **Take pride in what you do and take care of each other.**

M. MESTA

Lieutenant Colonel, USMC

Commanding