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COMMANDING OFFICER 1ST SUPPLY BATTALION STATEMENT ON

Safety



Marines and Sailors,

Our mission at 1st Supply Battalion is to provide general support, less bulk fuel, and Navy funded stock/programs and distribution system management for the sustainment of the Marine Air Ground Task Force operations. This command is distinct from most units within the Marine Corps. We provide the "beans, bullets, and band-aids" that every Marine and Sailor requires on the battlefield and in training.

Due to our unique mission, we must continuously reinforce the importance of safety and operational risk management among the subordinate Companies, as well as, those units who enter our area of responsibility. The nature of our operating environment has the potential to breed complacency; however, our professional approach to the mission will mitigate that potential.

I view safety and risk management as byproducts of professionalism. As we continuously strive for personal and professional excellence, a natural effect will be increased awareness, sound judgment, the ability to predict consequences, and a bias to "do the right thing." Leadership is a key element in establishing the safety culture and all levels in the chain of command must stress safety and risk management to ensure it is incorporated into all aspects of our business — on and off-duty.

All Marines, Sailors and Civilians shall employ a range of tools to positively affect force preservation. Risk mitigation is one of the primary means available to eliminate injuries and the senseless loss of life, both on-duty and off. The leaders of 1st Supply Battalion will ensure risk mitigation is employed when accomplishing daily tasks and when those in their charge are planning off-duty activities. Furthermore, the safety programs implemented by 1st Supply Battalion will aggressively pursue the reduction of incidents on and off-duty through the implementation of risk mitigation measures, comprehensive safety training and education, oversight by leaders, and accountability.

Lastly, every decision you make affects not only you, but your loved ones and fellow co-workers, as well. I need every Marine, Sailor, Civilian Marine, and Contractor to be a Safety Officer, and to step-up and stop or correct any unsafe activity. If it does not look right, smell right, sound right, or feel right, chances are it is not right. Your diligence and proactive actions could save a life or prevent serious injury. **Think, Decide, and Act – in that order!**

Reference: MCO 5100.29C

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Semper Fidelis,

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T. M. MENKE

Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps

Commanding Officer, 1st Supply Battalion