

Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One

Commander's Safety Policy



Goal: to accomplish our mission with zero preventable mishaps. Our Sailors, Marines and our extended MAWTS-1 family are our most precious resources. Taking care of them is critical to our success. MAWTS-1 is at the forefront of Marine Corps safety by implementing and maintaining a Safety Management System (SMS); giving our Marines, Sailors and Civilian Marines the tools needed to ensure a proactive and preventative approach to safety.

Fundamentals: the high operational tempo of the Weapons and Tactics Instructor course coupled with challenging missions requires brilliance in the basics. Instructor warm-ups on fleet support and during WTI will focus on the fundamentals. Whether it comes to flying or maintaining aircraft, every one of us must ensure that we operate in accordance with established procedures, checklists and safety policies. NATOPs, ANTPs, the SPINS, SOPs, the NAMP and the MIMs will be the documents that guide and bind us. Fatigue, complacency, rushing, and overconfidence must always be avoided. Mistakes, near misses, and accidents/mishaps all need to be reported, without the fear of reprisal.

Risk Management (RM): apply RM to every activity at every level. It is incumbent upon us to ensure that every graduate of WTI knows and understands how to properly mitigate red and blue threats. We cannot teach this, if we do not live by it ourselves. It is not good enough to say, "A tactically sound plan is an inherently safe plan." Tactically sound plans that do not account for pilot currency, proficiency, weather and other threats, may not be safe. It is our responsibility to ensure that we properly weigh and mitigate the red and blue threats and teach our students to do the same. Risk management shall be embraced at all levels and exist for all activities, both on and off duty. Everybody can make a difference!

Off Duty: we lose more Marines in off-duty mishaps involving alcohol, motorcycles, and recreational vehicles than we lose in the line of duty. Approach your off-duty activities like any other mission and always have a sound plan prior to stepping off.

Speak up: all personnel are responsible for identifying hazards and intervening if they witness inappropriate or unsafe acts. If something does not look right, smell right or seem right, speak up! Every member of this squadron is empowered to voice safety concerns at any time, without fear of reprisal.

Learn: We must be a learning organization to prevent repeating mistakes. Safety is an all hands effort. I need everybody at MAWTS-1 to commit to improving our safety posture by embracing our SMS, reporting hazards or potential hazards conduct honest, thorough, critical debriefs of all flights and maintenance evolutions and share those lessons learned. By sharing our both our successes and mistakes, we will contribute to improving the readiness, relevance and lethality of the fleet.

Safety is a state of mind that must be present in everything that we do both on and off duty.

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric D. Purcell".

Eric D. Purcell
Commanding Officer