Safety & Force Preservation Policy of the Commandant of the Marine Corps

"I NEED YOU READY FOR THE FIGHT"

The Marine Corps is America's Expeditionary Force in Readiness — we are "always faithful" to answer our Nation's call. This requires every member of the Marine Corps Team to maintain a constant posture of readiness for whatever may come.

Safety is central to the idea of readiness and must not be an afterthought of our actions in combat, in training and while on liberty. All leaders must guard against reckless behavior; both at the unit and individual level, because it jeopardizes the health, safety, and combat readiness of our entire Corps.

While risk is inherent in many things that we do, we must learn to manage it by controlling and mitigating risk regardless of operational complexity. We must continue to provide realistic training balanced with a strong emphasis on risk mitigation while applying the same principles and procedures equally to our off-duty activities. To do this, we will mentor Marines and Sailors with a mindset of selflessness and heroism in battle, and one of discipline and judiciousness in garrison.

There is no single solution for force preservation. Rather we must employ a range of tools to help us in our efforts. Risk mitigation is one of the best means available as we fight to eliminate senseless and needless loss of life and injury, both on duty and on liberty. I charge all Marines to ensure risk mitigation strategies are included in the planning and execution of all on-duty and liberty activities; we do it in combat … we need to do it in garrison.

I need you and your equipment in the fight when our nation calls. With the active participation of every Marine within our Corps, we can preserve our most precious asset — the individual Marine, Sailor and Civilian Marine — to be the "most ready" when the Nation calls.

Semper Fidelis,

JAMES F. AMOS
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps