



MARINE CORPS AIR STATION BEAUFORT

COMMAND PHILOSOPHY



CULTURE. The establishment of an effective and supportive culture is my highest priority, and I believe that Servant Leadership is the key to that effort. Every Marine remembers the exact moment when the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor was pressed into their hand for the first time. At that instant, we were forever changed, knowing that we were willing to give our own lives precisely because the Marine to our left and right was willing to give his or her life for us. Everything we stand for and believe in revolves around the culture we set for each other every day. When men and women are willing to give their lives for one another, the warrior spirit grows, and our culture is reaffirmed. Set the example, live our ethos, and always remember what you stand for!

PEOPLE. Marines, Sailors, Civilians, and Family Members are the bedrock of this institution, and the most precious asset a Commander can have. I believe that the care and empowerment of people demonstrates leadership and furthers a foundation built on mentorship and opportunity. While some leaders echo the concept of "Mission first, Marines always," you will find that I consistently and intentionally put people first. Without people operating at their best, the mission will undoubtedly fail. The Marines, Sailors, Civilians, and Family Members of Team Beaufort are my highest priority. You are worthwhile, relevant, and lethal, and this Air Station is successful because of you!

PROFESSIONALISM. Creating high performing units requires technical and tactical ability. This is often mistaken as the need for specialized training and refined tactics. Instead, it's brilliance in the basics that matters, and the standardization of routine tasks enables this. Perfect practice makes perfect execution, and if we can complete even the most routine tasks with determination and precision, we polish the skills and discipline needed to be successful in both combat and peace. Basic skills executed safely and flawlessly is what allows us to have Marines and machines at the Line of Departure when it's time to fight. These ideas are byproducts of an environment where mistakes are made and corrected, learning occurs, and high proficiency and lethality is achieved. Our lethality is increased when Marines, Sailors, and Civilians strive for these fundamental goals and set the example every day.

PURPOSE. I challenge you to know your Marines and understand what makes them tick. What is their purpose and what makes them excited to put on their uniform every day? Appreciate what drives them both personally and professionally and know their strengths and weaknesses. At the same time, you must also understand these aspects about yourself too. Connections matter, and each of you are an essential and irreplaceable asset to this team. Without your commitment to mission accomplishment and personal development, our ethos crumbles and our Corps would cease to exist. As leaders at every level, it is vital that we build resilience and perseverance. Understanding our purpose will propel our team to reach their highest potential.

In every clime and place, your enemy is preparing to meet you on the field of battle. Will you be ready? Are you doing your part to make sure your brothers and sisters will be ready too? I can promise you this: I WILL!

I am honored and proud to serve with every one of you - the Marines, Sailors, Civilians, and Family Members of Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort. Together, we will continue to stand upon the foundation, uphold the legacy of excellence shown in the history of our Air Station, and continue supporting II MEF by ensuring the welfare of our Marines, Sailors, Civilians and their families. Semper Fidelis!

Mark D. Bortnem
Colonel, United States Marine Corps
Commanding Officer