

# Safety



Vengeance exists to support the Marine Air Ground Task Force Commander by providing offensive air support, utility support, armed escort, and airborne supporting arms coordination, day or night under all weather conditions during expeditionary, joint or combined operations. Any threat to the safety of our Marines, Sailors or equipment is a threat to our ability to carry out this mission.

Our profession of arms is one that will always involve risk. Whether that risk comes from enemy action, the environment in which we operate, our complex equipment, or our own human nature, we must be relentless in identifying, assessing and mitigating it. With proper training, deliberate and detailed planning, disciplined execution, and rigorous supervision, we accomplish our mission, preserve our assets and safeguard the Marines and Sailors upon whom our success relies. **No mission or activity we undertake in training is so important as to risk the life or safety of a Marine or Sailor or damage our equipment.**

Off duty activities pose their own unique risks, and we must be equally vigilant in addressing them. Preparation, planning, discipline, and a commitment to looking out for each other are vital tools in this effort. Used properly, they prevent well-deserved time off from ending in misconduct, injury, or tragedy.

Operational Risk Management provides a framework for identifying, assessing and mitigating risk. It is nothing more than a formal name for assessing threats to the mission and putting controls in place to reduce those threats to an acceptable level. It does not matter whether the mission is attacking an enemy target, installing an engine, or enjoying an evening out with friends. Always ask, "What can keep this from ending well, and how will I keep that from happening?" Follow through with continuous re-assessment, and remain alert for unanticipated risks.

Despite our best efforts to identify and manage risks, dangerous situations may still develop. **Every member of the Vengeance family has the power and the obligation to intervene immediately when an unsafe act occurs or a dangerous situation develops.** Do not assume someone else will do it – you may have the last chance to make a difference. Leaders are encouraged to seek opportunities to recognize and reward those who have stepped up to prevent an unsafe situation from developing.

Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Weingart  
Commanding Officer, Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 469

***Attack with Vengeance!***

