

MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 11 SAFETY POLICY



We live and work in a complex and uncertain environment that harbors many risks. To remain combat effective, we must always remain vigilant of the threats and dangers that surround us and wait to take advantage of complacent or negligent actions. Our profession is inherently dangerous, with the flight line arguably one of the most dangerous environments there is. There is very little room for error as we push our machines, and our bodies, to the edge of their operating envelope. We cannot allow ourselves to fall prey to complacency, shortcuts, or any unauthorized action that contributes to the dangers we already face.

Inherent and interwoven in every action we do throughout our lives, on and off duty, is risk management and safety. Safety is not a separate “thing” that we do, or just a “check in the box”. Preservation of our lives and assets, while accomplishing the assigned mission, is an implied task that shall be considered in all we do. This includes off duty and recreational activities. We are losing too many Marines and Sailors to preventable, off-duty accidents. It is the responsibility of every Marine and Sailor to remain engaged and be proactive to minimize mishaps of all types.

We will adhere to our proven tactics, maintenance procedures, and SOPs which will allow us to execute our mission safely and effectively, while mitigating risk. These procedures are proven, time-tested lessons, learned the hard way and paid for in blood by Marines and Sailors who have gone before us. There is a long list of catastrophic mishaps and grave markers reminding us of the consequences from disregarding SOPs and authorized practices. As professional warriors we must have the discipline to do what is right every time, no matter how hard it is, even when no one is watching. The right way may not always be the easiest, but we must stay disciplined and do it right. If we allow ourselves to stray from this path it is only a matter of time before the shortcut or negligent action causes a detrimental effect.

I expect you to address any concerns you have with your safety department, QA, or leadership within your chain of command. Additionally, I encourage you to address any safety concerns directly to myself, or the MAG-11 SgtMaj if you feel your concerns are being ignored. There is no rank too senior or junior that is immune to the tragic consequences of complacency and negligence. Take pride in all you do and never compromise your integrity. I charge everyone in MAG-11 to have the courage and discipline to practice and enforce our SOPs and safety policy. When we strive to be the most professional and consummate warriors possible, while adhering to our proven and authorized tactics, techniques, and procedures, we will accomplish any mission, safely and effectively. I am proud of the legacy MAG-11 has established; it is now upon us to carry it forward. Stay focused and stay disciplined.

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William J. Mitchell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Col William J. Mitchell
U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 11