



VMFAT-502

Safety Policy




Safety in our daily work routine should be viewed as a force multiplier, not an obstacle to mission accomplishment. It is incumbent on all Marines, Sailors and civilians in this organization to actively engage in the safety program and utilize proper risk mitigation at all levels. Unsafe practices lead to Marines getting hurt and broken equipment, both of which detract from our mission. Aviation and maintenance operations are inherently safe if conducted properly, but very unforgiving if executed improperly. In order to keep our Marines and equipment safe and operational, we must follow the prescribed guidelines that have been written based on past mistakes. On the flightline, all our actions must fit into “the box” with the following four sides:

- 1) The Commander Naval Air Forces (CNAF) 4790 / 3710
- 2) F-35 Joint Technical Data (JTD) / Flight Series Data (FSD)
- 3) Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) / Local Command Procedures (LCPs)
- 4) Individual performance capabilities

If the required actions fall outside of “the box” notify your chain of command and don’t push a bad situation. No individual in this unit can make the decision at his/her level to skip a step or not do a task according to the standard. We must fight the temptation to cut corners. You should feel comfortable bringing up any safety concerns to anyone in your chain of command, to include your Commanding Officer. Every Marine has the authority and the duty to halt any activity if you believe an unsafe action is occurring. It is up to you to ensure safe operations in this squadron!

Off duty accidents remain a problem for the Marine Corps. I expect leaders at all levels to be engaged with their Marines and ensure everyone has a sound plan for their off duty activities. No matter what the activity, always look to identify hazards, assess the risk, and put measures in place to mitigate that risk. The buddy system is the key to success for off duty activities. Always have a plan and a buddy you can rely on to help execute the liberty mission successfully.

Finally, if you find yourself in a bad situation ask for help. You can always call anyone in your chain of command, to include the Squadron Duty Officer, for assistance. The most important thing is getting home safely so you can continue to serve your family, the squadron, and the mission. You are the most important asset this squadron has and your safety should be at the forefront of the decisions we are making!


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Commanding Officer