



## 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION COMMANDING OFFICER POLICY ON FORCE PRESERVATION



“Force preservation is a vital element of our combat readiness. Engaged leadership at all levels is the key to ensuring a command climate that demands the preservation of Marine Corps assets through risk management.”

- MCO 5100.29B, Marine Corps Safety Program

Our profession is dangerous. We must minimize the dangers where we can, apply sound judgement and common sense, follow proven procedures, and make every effort to instill a sense of pride in our ability to perform our mission safely without taking unnecessary risks. Pre-combat Checks and Inspections apply for everything and must become a habit of thought. “Mission first, safety always” is not just a tag line; it is what guides our actions and habits of thought. Taking unnecessary risks is lazy, foolish, and a sure sign of an amateur - we are pros so act like it.

Safety is a mission that simply cannot be accomplished without the efforts of every single member of 2d Combat Engineer Battalion. Safety is a team effort that requires vigilance, persistence, and leadership at every level. Our officer and SNCO leaders must be actively engaged in the risk management process to ensure we mitigate potential hazards while implementing proper safety controls. Equally important, our junior leaders need to be actively engaged in safeguarding the welfare of the Marines and Sailors on their flanks, and possess the moral courage to challenge poor decisions and acts. EVERY member of this Battalion has an obligation to immediately stop unsafe acts.

Leaders at all levels must remain vigilant on safety, both on and off-duty, and employ the proven small-unit leadership, supervision, and risk management tools at the lowest level. I charge each leader to constantly examine their approach to safety, and bring all available tools to bear to mitigate and manage operational risk.

Force preservation and safety awareness are essential to protecting our most precious asset – the individual Marine. Know Your Stuff, Be a Marine, Take Care of Your People.

Robert M. McLellan  
Commanding Officer  
2d Combat Engineer Battalion