



# Command Philosophy

## 2d Combat Engineer Battalion



1. **Commander's Intent.** To be physically, mentally, and psychologically prepared, as individuals and as an organization, to provide timely, proficient, and flexible engineer support. 2d Combat Engineer Battalion provides unwavering professional expertise and combat power to the 2d Marine Division.

2. **Philosophy of Command.** We will be ready for battle, to always accomplish the mission, and to continue the legacy of combat valor and fidelity. Below are the areas that we must focus on in order to support and enable us to fight and win.

a. **Leadership.** Be intentional about leadership. Align desired outcomes, core values, purpose, and intent to achieve successful results. Each leader will instill a sense of responsibility in their Marines and Sailors through proper intent and guidance. We are not looking for a no-mistake mindset during training, as long as no one is injured or killed. We are focused on developing independent, small-unit leaders with a bias for action who are flexible and capable in garrison and on the battlefield.

b. **Accountability.** From individual weapons and equipment, to operational equipment, to the individual Marine or Sailor, accountability is key. Take ownership of each piece of equipment that you use, and treat it as your own. Lead Marine and Sailor under your care and treat them as your own, with dignity and respect, and they will take care of you.

c. **Training.** We have training objectives that we must achieve to prepare for combat. We will train as we fight using standards-based, performance-oriented, and mission-oriented training. Administrative and equipment readiness are critical to enabling the training required to succeed in battle.

d. **Family.** Families provide the core of our background and character as individuals. We must ensure that our families are set up for success, especially financially and emotionally. Given the responsibilities we have while we're in garrison, in the field, or deployed around the world, we must ensure our families are as prepared and ready as the rest of the unit.

e. **Conduct.** Irresponsible, immoral, unethical behavior will only make our unit less effective and possibly cost lives. Before you act, think of your fellow Marines and Sailors and your family and think about the consequences. We take care of our battle buddy on liberty as we would in a combat zone.

3. This is our way of life – a calling, if you will. We are America's premier warriors. Every individual must maintain focus on our duty, allowing us to excel as we prepare for combat, and continue the legacy of America's Combat Engineer Battalion. I look forward to serving with each of you. Semper Fidelis!

B.D. LaPointe

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding Officer