

## Commanding Officer's Safety and Force Preservation Policy Letter

Our primary objectives in the 6th Marine Corps District are to: reinforce and expand upon the trust and respect the American people have in us, shape the future of the Marine Corps, and support and enable our Marines and their families to be happy and successful. Safety is a critical component to achieving all three. Every member of our team is expected to take an active role in ensuring mission accomplishment, appropriate risk identification and mitigation, and the preservation of our entire force!



The primary tools we use to mitigate risk are operational risk management and engaged leadership. Force Preservation is a leadership responsibility regardless of rank or position. All personnel must ensure a safe working environment for all—every Marine, Sailor, Civilian, and Applicant is a “Safety Officer.” We should also understand the primary risks we face in the current recruiting environment.

Due to our unique mission, our Marines will spend an enormous amount of time in vehicles transporting applicants from place to place. As our command covers approximately 350,000 square miles and we will drive more than 10,000 applicants at different times per year, motor vehicle mishaps and accidents are the greatest threat to our Marines’ and Applicants’ safety and property. This year alone, we will drive more than 660 government vehicles more than 11 million miles to accomplish our mission. We must all stay ever-vigilant and apply risk management as we travel for long hours, during busy traffic periods, and during inclement weather conditions.

Safety and risk management should also be applied off duty. Whether mishaps occur during working hours or on liberty, the loss of an injured Marine, Sailor, Civilian, or Applicant decreases our ability to accomplish our mission and hurts readiness. Risk management begins with the commander and involves the entire chain of command down to the most junior member of our team. Commanders will ensure that every member of their unit understands their responsibility for enforcement of, and compliance with, the Marine Corps Safety and Force Preservation Program. The 6<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps District Safety Officer is Major Mimi K. Seedall at (843) 228-3207 and the Safety Chief is GySgt Todd A. Cerny at (843) 228-3245. I know I can count on all of you to carry out my intent!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. J. Bowers".

W. J. BOWERS  
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding Officer