Force preservation, safety and managing risk are operational and readiness requirements and are responsibilities of command. As the Commander, Marine Corps Installations Command, I take them very seriously. Our Marines, Sailors, Civilian Marines, and partner host nation employees are the Center of Gravity for Marine Corps Installations Command. Safety is a leadership responsibility as commanders and leaders, at all levels, provide the institutional foundation for safety – reinforcing unit and individual safety measures. Safety is also the responsibility of every person assigned to Marine Corps Installations Command. Providing a safe and healthy platform from which we deploy, employ, work and live can only be achieved if all personnel strive to work together to ensure risk management is implemented into all activities. Ensuring the safety and well-being of each member of the Marine Corps Installations Command family will be an integrated part of our daily lives, both on and off duty.

All aspects of our mission involve a certain amount of risk; whether it is supporting combat training operations aboard our installations, flying Operational Support Aircraft, or conducting liberty. All personnel must utilize attention to detail, make prudent risk management decisions and be proactive in mitigating on-and-off duty risks and hazards in order to maintain individual readiness. Leaders must mentor our Marines, Sailors, and Civilian Marines individually or through planned battle rhythm safety briefs. Risk management should be deliberate, planned, continuous, and optimized through minimization of hazards wherever we find them. We cannot accept nor will we tolerate any unnecessary and uncalculated risk which may endanger ourselves or others.

Collectively, we must establish a culture that facilitates effective communication to mitigate risks, hazards and concerns that may arise during events. Through continued education, training and inspections, we will work to eliminate needless injuries or death.

We all deserve an environment where safety is a fundamental and integral element of our daily battle rhythm, and not a barrier to action or an afterthought. I challenge each member of this Command to remain engaged in safety focused continuing actions designed to ensure command and individual readiness.

Semper Fidelis,

C. L. HUDSON
Major General, U. S. Marine Corps
Commander, Marine Corps Installations Command