



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS EAST-MARINE CORPS BASE  
PSC BOX 20005  
CAMP LEJEUNE NC 28542-0005

5100  
SAFE

10 DEC 2012

COMMANDING GENERAL'S POLICY LETTER 011-12

From: Commanding General  
To: All Commanders, Marine Corps Installations East-Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune and General, Special Staff Department Heads  
Subj: PARTICIPATION OF MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS EAST-MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE (MCIEAST-MCB CAMLEJ) IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAM (VPP) INITIATIVE  
Ref: (a) ASN (I&E) memo of 13 Jul 07  
(b) CMC (SD) memo of 19 Jul 07

1. Purpose. To establish policy for participating in the DoD Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Center of Excellence (CX) Initiative in support of references (a) and (b).

2. Information

a. Force preservation is a vital element of our mission readiness and capabilities. When military service members and civilian employees are injured due to mishaps in the workplace, it negatively impacts productivity and business efficiencies. Preventable injuries and illnesses cost DoD an estimated \$10 to \$21 billion in workers' compensation claims annually. In 2011, preventable injuries and illnesses cost Marine Corps Installations East over \$7 million.

b. To reduce the number of claims, the DoD has established strategic goals to reduce workplace mishaps. In turn, for the Services to meet their goals, an effective Safety Management System (SMS) must be properly implemented and managed. Per references (a) and (b), the DoD and the Marine Corps have chosen the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) VPP to assist commanders by improving overall mission readiness.

c. VPP is a management system that promotes safe workplaces and ensures leadership, accountability, and employee participation in the command safety program. VPP participant worksites maintain comprehensive injury and illness prevention

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programs that share a number of important elements, which are management commitment and worker involvement; worksite analysis; hazard prevention and control; and training. VPP recognizes organizations that have implemented a sound SMS and maintained injury and illness rates below the national average for their industries. In return, OSHA removes them from programmed inspection lists and does not issue them citations for standards violations that are promptly corrected.

d. To aid the Marine Corps in working toward VPP Star recognition from OSHA, the Defense Safety Oversight Council established the DoD VPP CX, staffed with contract personnel that are available to help commanders navigate through the VPP process. The DoD VPP CX provides assessment, training, and other support at no cost to the command. VPP Star sites generally experience the following:

(1) 60 to 80 percent fewer lost workday injuries than would be expected of an average site of the same size in their industries;

(2) Improved employee motivation to work safely, leading to better quality and productivity;

(3) Reduced workers' compensation costs; and

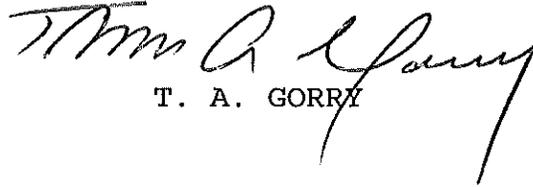
(4) Pride and recognition as a world class leader in worker health and safety.

e. To learn more about the VPP CX Initiative, visit <https://vppcx.org/>.

3. Action. To enhance our commitment to improving worker safety and health, increase public recognition, and enhance employee benefits, MCIEAST-MCB CAMLEJ Installations will participate in the DoD VPP CX Initiative and seek Star status recognition from OSHA.

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4. Point of contact is the MCIEAST-MCB CAMLEJ Director of  
Safety at DSN 751-5725 or commercial (910) 451-5725.

  
T. A. GORRY

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