

**COMMANDING GENERAL
I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
Safety Policy Statement**



Our effectiveness in day-to-day operations and in the crucible of combat rests upon the shoulders of the Marines, Sailors, and Civilians of I MEF. Challenges and inherent risks unique to warfighting present themselves daily, as do others faced in daily life.

Our ability to support the FMF requires focused, professional, and standardized execution of every action. Conducting ground combat operations or training, flying combat or training missions, embarking units for deployment, executing a unit physical fitness event, going out with friends, and enjoying outdoor activities with family members all involve risk assessment and mitigation that cannot be ignored. Every I MEF Marine, Sailor, and Civilian must recognize and identify risks, and take steps to mitigate risk to an acceptable level.

Safety is the resultant output of effective risk management...effective risk management leads to operational excellence...operational excellence creates combat credible and combat ready forces.

Unsafe actions put our people and equipment at risk. Professionalism and standardization are the bedrock of safe and effective warfighting organizations, and as professionals, I MEF will execute "by the book." Our policies and procedures, no matter how mundane they may seem, are established to identify the correct, effective, and safe way to accomplish a task. I expect every I MEF Marine, Sailor, and Civilian, no matter how junior or senior, to ensure we are collectively adhering to this standard.

Often, safety lapses in I MEF occur among peers while we are off-duty, and where we become complacent to the inherent risks in our personal lives. While performing our warfighting mission, I MEF makes challenging tasks look remarkably easy. We must not become too comfortable, overconfident, or complacent in the seemingly simple – driving, motorcycle riding, water activities, socializing with friends. Each of these can have tragic consequences if we fail to identify and appropriately address the risks. Just like in the workplace, we must ensure we hold each other accountable to the standard in our personal lives.

Every member of I MEF chose this profession, and every member of I MEF is a leader. Engaged, aggressive, professional, and proactive leadership is the only way we will continue to uphold the warfighting legacy I MEF has created over its esteemed history.

OUR GOAL IS ZERO MISHAPS!

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael S. Cederholm".

**Michael S. Cederholm
Lieutenant General, United States Marine Corps
Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force, FMF**