



Commanding Officer's Policy on Preparation

*Training & Education, Leader Development,
Energy Security, Environmental Management*



Marines, Sailors, and Civilians,

My intent is contained in three simple imperatives:

Live Right - Be a Great Teammate - Prepare for the Future

Preparation for the future is a mentality that will drive our actions in all things. Blount Island Command's core mission is to prepare for the future so that the Marine Corps will be ready to respond immediately to a future crisis, anywhere. We are excellent at planning years ahead, understanding that the actions we take today have enduring impact. We must make sure that this mentality is applied universally, in our personal and professional lives, both at home and on mission. When we look back on this season, I want each of us to be able to say that we grew personally and professionally, and we positively influenced our environments. This will not happen without some intention.

Training & Education: We have myriad programs and opportunities to grow and develop, use them! Training is focused on skill acquisition and refinement. Through partnerships with local universities or our own instructors, the business office champions many training opportunities that you can leverage for professional development. Mandatory training classes are important refreshers and will be completed annually. For any who take initiative, there are opportunities every day to cross train with teammates or gain exposure to new parts of our business. Education is also important in that it prepares us for the unknown. Uniformed members will be afforded opportunity to complete their requisite Professional Military Education (PME). Civilian Career Leadership Development (CCLD) and Academic Degree Program (ADP) are competitive education opportunities that will enhance your skills and future career potential. Whether you are in uniform or not, there are Tuition Assistance (TA) programs that can reimburse you for self-education at all levels. All personnel should develop Individual Development Plans (IDPs) with their leadership that set goals and identify opportunities for development. Please reference MCO 1560.25, MCO 12410.2, LOGCOM Order 12410.2 and contact the Command Education Officer or Business Manager for more details or help in preparing for your future.

Leader Development: MCO 1500.61 mandates that we are engaged in developing Marines and Sailors in all facets of life (Fidelity, Fitness, Family, Future, Finances, Fighter) to prepare them for long term personal and professional success and contribution to society. We owe the same commitment to our civilians. Effective leaders take a holistic approach to developing their team, understanding that only investing in technical or professional competency is short sighted. Through regular interaction and feedback, we will assist and encourage each other in living out our core values and preparing to meet the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Energy Security is a critical area in which we must be working today to prepare for the future. We can anticipate that energy supply could be attacked by an enemy or disrupted by a natural disaster. Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island (MCSF-BI) must ensure a

secure energy supply and delivery system so that we can continue to execute our mission even in the worst of times. Installation Division has projects in work to improve the *Reliability* of our energy supply and delivery systems. *Resilience* is another area of focus, and we will continue to develop and practice our procedures for how to prepare, prevent, and recover from energy disturbances. However, we all have an opportunity to participate daily in the third pillar of energy security: *Efficiency*. By minimizing our mission essential energy requirements and practicing energy conservation, we will be prepared to sustain operations, come what may. We will continue our success in reducing our energy use by 2.5% every year. Please contact MCSF-BI Energy Team (904-696-5002) for more information on our energy security efforts.

Environmental Management: We are strategically positioned on the St Johns River, a location critical to our ability to sustain the Maritime Prepositioning Force, but also at the center of a fragile ecosystem and vulnerable to changing weather patterns and rising seas. Therefore, effective and efficient Environmental Management (EM) is critical to sustaining and enhancing mission effectiveness; it is imperative that we minimize risk to mission and future capabilities through conservation of our natural and cultural resources. Our baseline commitment is to comply with all relevant environmental laws, regulations, policies, and directives, whether they are federal, state, local, DoD, DoN, or MCOs. These obligations are our starting point, but our commitment to environmental protection and pollution prevention must go deeper, with all of us working together to find ways to improve our environmental management system and continually enhance environmental performance. We should all be proud of our ISO 14001.2015 certification and be active participants in its sustainment. We will also continue to foster strong working relationships with our many wonderful partners at regulatory agencies and conservation groups with whom we will collaborate, build trust with the public, enhance mission readiness, and protect our future.

I am confident that each of us will do our part to prepare for the future. My prayer is that we all will grow in our character, relationships, and influence, having an increasingly positive impact at home, on mission, and in life. It is an honor to serve you and lead by example.

Semper Fidelis and God Bless,

Colonel Luke Watson
Commanding Officer
Blount Island Command
Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island