

# VMAQ-4 COMMANDING OFFICER'S PHILOSOPHY

## Winning Wars and Making Marines

At VMAQ-4 we do two things: We fight and win the nation's wars, and we make Marines.

### Fighting and winning wars:

- **Mission:** Our mission is to support the MAGTF or Combatant Commander by conducting airborne electronic warfare, day or night, under all weather conditions during Expeditionary, Joint, or Combined Operations. The mission always comes first – it is our reason for being here; it's the reason the squadron exists.
- **Marines:** Each Marine is in this squadron for a specific reason which directly supports the mission and is defined by our Primary MOS. Our support of the mission depends on our Technical and Tactical Proficiency and the readiness of every Marine to deploy anywhere in the world at all times.
- **Materiel:** The readiness of our aircraft is the paramount materiel concern in the squadron. We own five primary weapons systems, and everything we do is dedicated to getting Full Mission Capable aircraft to the right place at the right time with a qualified crew to tactically employ it against the enemy. We must also be meticulous and responsible stewards of all our equipment.
- **Training:** Training and improving in our primary MOS must be constant and continuous. Training hard and like we will fight is critical to our success in combat. Be brilliant at the basics, and then challenge yourself and your subordinates to continuously improve

### Making Marines:

When not focused on the primary mission, we will be dedicated to improving ourselves and our subordinates. Every Seahawk is tasked with developing a personal Professional Military Education (PME) program. Every shop will ensure every member of the shop receives at least 30 minutes of organized PME outside their primary MOS each week. We will groom our own replacements and develop junior leaders into senior leaders. We all know someone who left the Marine Corps over 30 years ago and still credits the experience with all his or her success. We must ensure our Marines and Sailors say the same thing about their service 30 years from now.

### Climate:

Every activity and task in VMAQ-4 should exist within a climate of Safety and Ethics.

- Safety, and the Operational Risk Management (ORM) process, creates efficiency and prevents needless loss of resources. We must identify all risk and we can never accept unnecessary risk.
- Our Ethics are paramount – there can never be a debate between being effective or ethical. By definition, you are not effective unless you are acting ethically. Every mission statement you receive should be seen to begin with “In an ethical manner...” Every Marine and Sailor has a right to be morally and ethically lead, and leadership at all levels must ensure we live up to this.

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