

Commanding Officer, Marine Attack Squadron 223

Violence Prevention Program Policy



In VMA-223, our personnel are our most valuable resource and their protection is of paramount importance. The Violence Prevention Program was mandated by the DoD after lessons learned from a mass shooting by a service member in Fort Hood, Tx in 2009. This program is designed to protect VMA-223 Marines, Sailors, contractors, civilian employees, family members, and visitors from any act of physical violence against persons or property, physical or verbal threats, intimidation, harassment, or other inappropriate, disruptive behavior that causes fear for personal safety in or outside of the squadron.

We need everyone's cooperation to implement this policy effectively and maintain a safe working environment. **Recognize the warning signs/indicators of potential violence.** Such behavior can include oral or written statements, gestures, or expressions that communicate a direct or indirect threat of physical harm. **Report the warning signs/indicators of potential violence in a timely manner.** If you observe or experience such behavior, report it immediately to a leader, the squadron Violence Protect Officer (VPO), or PMO. Threats that require immediate law enforcement involvement such as assaults and other suspected crimes should be reported immediately by dialing 911. Additional web-based or anonymous reporting options include Eagle Eyes (<https://usmceagleeyes.org/index.html>), NCIS website (www.ncis.navy.mil) or NCIS Text Tip hotline (Text "NCIS" to 274637).

With knowledge of warning signs/indicators of potential violence, the squadron will respond appropriately. The command will leverage the VPO and the multi-disciplinary team of the Force Preservation Council, to identify and utilize all appropriate organic and non-organic resources to address high-risk behavior. I will support all efforts made by leaders to resolve issues with harassment, intimidation, threats, and other disruptive behavior in and outside of our squadron to keep our workplace safe.

Semper Fidelis,

Arthur Q. Bruggeman

Lieutenant Colonel, United States Marine Corps
Commanding Officer, Marine Attack Squadron 223