

WILDCAT ETHICS

Every Wildcat will be treated with dignity and respect

The Wildcat team represents a diverse cadre of instructors and students from around the country and world. As Americans, our oath to the Constitution means we devoutly believe in the unalienable rights of Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. We support and defend this ideal against all enemies foreign and domestic. This means we do not tolerate predatory or abusive behaviors within our organization, Navy, or Marine Corps. As a team, we are stronger because of our diversity in thought to consider challenges from varying perspectives. This strength is rooted in our individual identities that we must also normalize with our professional identity as representatives *of the people* in our profession of arms. As your Commanding Officer, I expect you to uphold the highest standards, consider other viewpoints, and do the right thing. I also expect that you will *step up and step in* to stop any and all predatory or abusive behaviors you witness on your watch. Wildcats look out for each other. In the words of an interesting old guy “America’s strength is not through the example of our power, but by the power of our example.” Set the example!

We will set the conditions for every Wildcat to succeed according to our guiding principles

The United States Navy is a meritocracy. We all work hard to develop experience, demonstrate our capacity to lead, and are then rewarded with challenging assignments that take us out of our comfort zones to grow as professionals. I promise we will set the conditions for all Wildcats to succeed: students and staff, military and civilian. But success is not always guaranteed. Along the way, you may be challenged with failure. Seize experience at every turn you take, learn from error (yours and other’s), study smartly, and be focused and disciplined in your approach. We will set the conditions for success, I am relying on you to help take the final steps in realizing that success.

Safety is realized through thoughtful planning and execution. Do not accept unnecessary risk, make risk decisions at the right level, and only accept risk when the benefits outweigh the costs

Developing and maturing a risk-attuned perspective for work, home, and recreational activities is essential in our profession. We make the amazing appear routine through methodical planning and execution, and by not accepting unnecessary risk. In a training environment we must manage dynamic situations according to NATOPS, SOP, and good headwork. Good headwork matures over time with experience and exposure. But even the most junior Wildcat can see when something is out of norm and step in to stop an incident from maturing to a mishap. Capture error at the earliest point in the error troika before it cascades to a mishap. This applies both on and off duty. The ‘blue threat’ or ‘off-duty mishaps’ also represent a high source of mishaps across the Navy. You all, are an essential resource that I need to maintain command mission effectiveness.

You all, are also Wildcat safety representatives. Be smart, think critically about what you are about to do, and don’t accept unnecessary risk.



The Error Troika (Helmreich, 2003)

Fly, Fight, Lead!
WILDCAT ONE SENDS
CDR KENNETH FROBERG, USN