

# FY18 FATALITIES

Aviation

**5**

On-Duty

**4**

Car

**15**

Motorcycle

**12**

Other

**8**

TOTAL

**44**



# COMBATTING THE BLUE THREAT

## Commandant's Safety Action Campaign

www.safety.marines.mil

Vol. 18 - Ed. 2

### Blue on Blue Incident:

## 10 Marines Wounded and 1 Killed During Training Exercises

### From the Director...

Our mishap investigations consistently reveal deficiencies in supervision, planning and execution. Since 2017, ten Marines have been injured and one Marine killed during training exercises.

In many cases, units fail to conduct effective rehearsal or don't conduct any rehearsal at all, resulting in disorientation to targets and/or personnel. Marines, read the Lessons Learned summary found here <https://intelshare.intelink.gov/sites/navsafe> describing four recent LFAM mishaps and apply to your specific slice of the MAGTF.

**Commander's Intent:** *Illuminate blue on blue training mishap causes in order to eliminate needless death and injury.*

**Combating the Blue Threat:** *There is an unfounded belief that safety and risk management create barriers to or limit the quality of training. In reality, tactically sound planning, in conjunction with deliberate risk management, enhances our ability to train as we fight.*

## Building Block Approach to Training



### Enduring Themes

- 1) Marines take care of their own.
- 2) Risk is inherent in everything we do and can be managed.
- 3) Safety is not a separate activity, but the byproduct of risk managed / professionally executed operations.
- 4) Every Marine is responsible for breaking the chain of events that leads to a mishap.

**Did You Know? Every tactically sound plan is inherently safe.**



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### Live Fire and Maneuver (LFAM) Mishaps

#### 4 Causal Factors

<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>Lack of Preparation/ Rehearsal</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>Ineffective Planning</b></p>
<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>Improper Marking Procedures</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>Overconfidence in Unit Abilities</b></p>

#### Causes

**Direct Causes** - Immediate action or condition that caused the mishap.

- Confusion/Loss of Situational Awareness
- Disorientation

**Contributing Causes** - Events/conditions that increased the likelihood of the mishap.

- Overconfidence
- Poor Communication

**Root Causes** - Events/conditions that, if corrected, will prevent the recurrence of the mishap.

- Lack of Preparation
- Ineffective/Omitted Rehearsals

### What **ACTION** can we take to combat the Blue Threat?

#### ALL LEADERS

*Risk Management is a leadership competency.*

- Effectively and thoroughly brief the event.
- Ensure comprehension through rehearsals. When in doubt, rehearse again.
- Accurately assess your unit's abilities and be aware of overconfidence.
- Skipping rehearsals to increase training realism violates MCO 3570.1B. It also increases the probability of actually decreasing your unit's readiness through injury or death.

#### NCOs

*Your leadership at the small unit level is vital to preventing these senseless losses.*

- Conduct pre-combat checks on your Marines to ensure their gear is operable.
- Conduct pre-combat inspections on your Marines to ensure they understand the mission, scheme of maneuver, commander's intent, and end-state.
- Let your Marines know they can come to you to express concerns and seek clarification in order to eliminate confusion.
- Professionals understand the importance of rehearsals. Have the moral courage to tell your leadership that you want to conduct rehearsals in order to protect your Marines and prepare them to the best of your abilities.

#### EVERY MARINE

*Each of us is responsible for our actions and decisions, on and off duty*

- If you become disoriented or confused on a live fire range... **CEASE FIRE!**
- Be humble in your own abilities and the ability of your unit.
- Plan the attack, rehearse the plan, and attack the plan as rehearsed.
- Speak up if the plan is confusing. You are not the only Marine who is confused.

LFAM Lessons Learned summary <https://intelshare.intelink.gov/sites/navsafe>.

Read it and discuss, ensuring your discussion includes why to apply the enduring themes and how to apply them.

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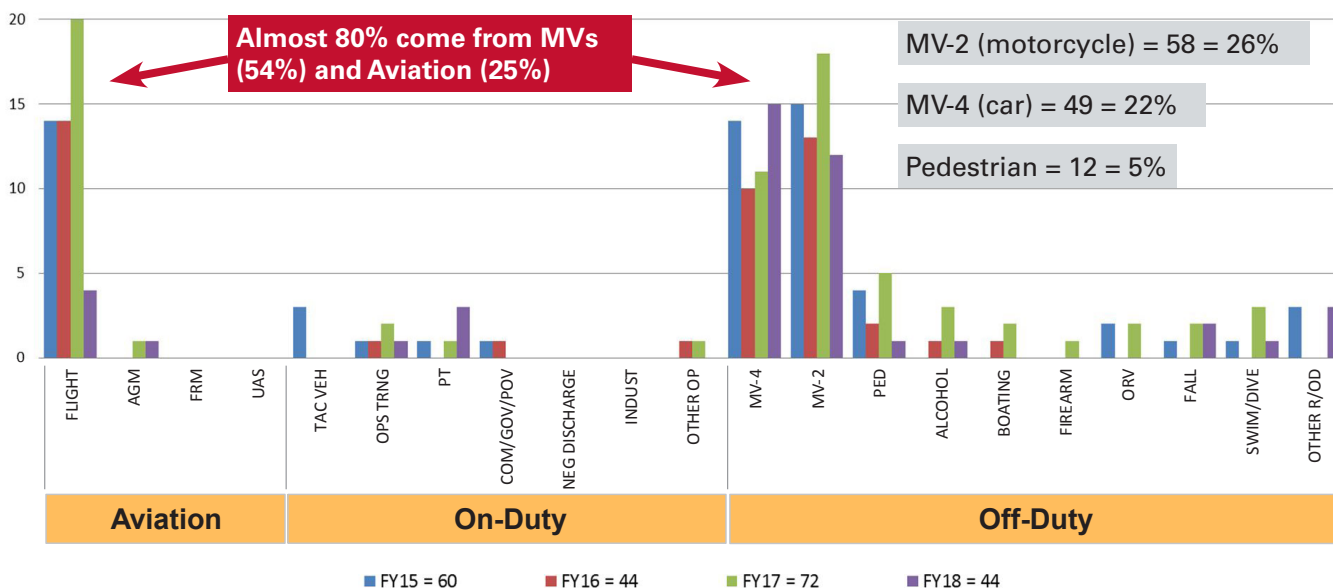
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### What Kills Marines? The 80 Percent Solution



### ACTION—Combat the 80%!

- Focus on preventing MV and Aviation mishaps through deliberate Risk Management.
- Hold Marines accountable for compliance with applicable orders and policies.

### How are we doing in FY18 so far?



### We have had...

#### AVIATION

**4 Class A Mishaps** resulting in the loss of four Marines, one Sailor, two CH-53Es, and one AV-8B. Our current Class A Flight mishap rate is 2.33, which is better than FY17 (3.99) and our five year average (3.00).



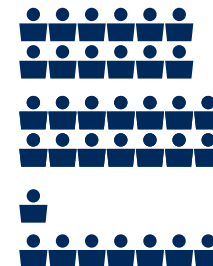
#### GROUND

**5 Class A Mishaps**, four of which resulted in death. Significant other on-duty mishaps include four Marines shot during live fire and maneuver training on Range 400 in two separate incidents.



#### OFF-DUTY

- 11 Class A MV-2 (Motorcycle) Mishaps** that resulted in the deaths of twelve Marines. Most common causal factors are skill-based errors, often following decision errors.
- 15 Class A MV-4 (Car) Mishaps** that resulted in the deaths of fourteen Marines. Most incidents occur late at night, suggesting that fatigue may have contributed. Excessive speed for conditions is common. Seat belts were not worn in several incidents.
- 1 Class A Pedestrian Mishap** that resulted in the death of one Marine.
- 8 Class A Other Mishaps** that resulted in the deaths of seven Marines. Alcohol is often a contributing factor.



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## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS ROLL-UP FOR JUNE 2018

### Aviation

**Fatalities:**

- None.

**Injuries:**

- None.

**Other:**

- None.

### On-Duty

**Fatalities:**

- 2018-06-19 **Class A PT:** Poolee, 6th MCD, Ocala, FL. SNP was **conducting physical training** led by his Canvassing Recruiter at Central Florida Community College when he fell, face first to the ground. SNP was subsequently pronounced deceased..

**Injuries:**

- None

**Other:**

- None.

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## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS ROLL-UP FOR JUNE 2018

### Off-Duty

#### Fatalities:

- 2018-06-19 **Class A MC:** Poolee, 8th MCD, Idaho Falls, ID. SNP was involved in a **motorcycle accident** and declared deceased on the scene. SNP was not attending or en route to a Marine Corps event.
- 2018-06-17 **Class A PMV:** PFC, MCES, Camp Lejeune, NC. SNMs involved in a **single vehicle accident** aboard Camp Lejeune, NC, one Marine was declared deceased at the scene and the other was hospitalized with minor injuries.
- 2018-06-17 **Class A PMV:** Sgt, CLB23, Lacey, WA. SNM died at the scene following a **head-on collision**. The civilian driver of the other vehicle is in stable condition with non-life threatening injuries.
- 2018-06-16 **Class A MC:** LCpl, HMLA/T 303, Glendora, GA. SNM died in a **single motorcycle accident**.
- 2018-06-09 **Class A PMV:** LCpl, MCSF BN, Gig Harbor, WA. SNM was declared deceased at the scene of a **two vehicle accident**. Gig Harbor Police department are investigation the accident.

#### Injuries:

- None

#### Other:

- None

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