



## **HMLA-269 COMMAND PHILOSOPHY**

### ***MISSION – PEOPLE – SUCCESS***

#### **ENDSTATE:**

**Fully trained and combat-ready while ensuring development and quality of life for all Gunrunners.**

#### **MISSION:**

*“The mission of HMLA-269 is to provide offensive air support, utility support, armed escort and airborne supporting arms coordination, day or night under all weather conditions.”*

**This mission cannot be taken lightly; it is deadly serious and dangerous work.** Our goal is readiness with zero preventable mishaps. We must be thoroughly prepared in our MOS ... maintain combat-ready Marines, aircraft, and weapons ... critically review and hone our tactics, techniques, and procedures ... successfully manage every program ... and ensure our standard operating procedures are sound. We must be mentally and physically fit PROFESSIONALS who excel at the basics (ORM, NATOPS, SOPs, tactics manuals, tech procedures, etc). Our Gunrunners, and Gunrunner families, must be informed and ready.

#### **PEOPLE:**

**It is my honor to serve as your commanding officer. It is my responsibility to set the conditions and climate for your success. The squadron’s success will require EVERY GUNRUNNER’s dedicated efforts – on and off duty. I expect Gunrunners to be Marines of strong character.**

**We will:**

- Respect and take care of each other and our families.
- Maintain high standards and seek improvement.
- Do it right, the first time, every time – the cost of failure is too high in this profession.
- Embrace selflessness and our core values of honor, courage, and commitment.
- Be loyal to each other and our chain of command.
- Work-smart and make time to enjoy ourselves along the way!

#### **SUCCESS:**

**Our success is defined by all Gunrunners knowing and performing their jobs PROFESSIONALLY and THOROUGHLY while making the efforts to LEAD, TRAIN, and MENTOR our peers and subordinates.** It will not be easy – it will require discipline and leadership at every level. By doing these things TOGETHER we will continue to embody, honor, and uphold the Gunrunner legacy of “The First and The Finest.”

***Together, we will ensure our success and will defeat any enemy.***



Lieutenant Colonel Mark E. Van Skike  
Commanding Officer, Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 269

***“The First, and The Finest”***