



It is an incredible honor to serve with the Assault Amphibian School. As key leaders, supporting staff, and instructors assigned to a Formal Learning Center, it is important that you understand what is important to me, how I think, and what to expect from me going forward. What follows is my command philosophy and intent, which can be best summarized in the phrase below:

### PROFESSIONALISM STARTS HERE!

**Lines of Effort.** As the Center of Excellence for the Assault Amphibian Community, we will accomplish our mission by focusing on four lines of effort:

- **LOE 1: Leader Development – Impactful leaders who are enthusiastic about training Marines.**
- **LOE 2: Standardization and Safety – Set the example for the AA Community; Master the ACV as a weapon system**
- **LOE 3: Program of Instruction Delivery and Refinement – Maximize 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning techniques.**
- **LOE 4: Clear, Consistent Communication (Internal / External) – Tell our story!**

**The Assault Amphibian School Vision:** The Assault Amphibian School supports the Operating Forces by delivering Leaders and Marines who are confident, proficient, disciplined, and ready to accomplish any mission and win.

**The Assault Amphibian School Mission:** *The Assault Amphibian School provides entry-level and career progression training to Assault Amphibian Marines to serve in the Fleet Marine Force, by providing quality instruction under operationally relevant and immersive training conditions.*

- Close communication between the operating force and the Assault Amphibian School is vital to ensure Marines, leaders, training and readiness updates, and doctrine the school produces meet mission requirements. The primary purpose of AAS is to support the operating forces. We provide training, doctrine, and leader development that enable our Marines to win in any environment.
- Collectively as a team comprised of Marines and Sailors from various occupational specialties, we must remain focused on training, supporting, and developing Assault Amphibian Marines.

#### **The Assault Amphibian School Commanders Intent and Four Key Tasks:**

**COMMANDERS INTENT:** As a Center of Excellence, the Assault Amphibian School is the premier institution for developing agile and adaptive Assault Amphibian leaders and Marines who master the fundamentals and are capable of operating and maintaining the ACV in any environment.

- **Key Task 1:** In coordination with CD&I, PM-AAA, TECOM, and Training Command, develop and publish the doctrine for the employment of the Amphibious Combat Vehicle. Continue to develop and optimize capabilities (platform and organizational) that enable Infantry formations combined with Assault Amphibian platoons and companies to dominate and win across the range of military operations.
- **Key Task 2:** Sustain the transformation of our newest Marines into disciplined, competent, confident Assault Amphibian operators and maintainers who understand the fundamentals and prepared for assignment to the Fleet Marine Force.
- **Key Task 3:** In conjunction with the operating force, select and develop instructors who are grounded in the fundamentals, experts in delivering instruction on ACV operations and maintenance, amphibious operations, tactical mobility, and gunnery in support of dismounted combined arms maneuver.
- **Key Task 4:** Serve as the proponent for standardization and safety for the Assault Amphibian Community.

#### **Lastly, my expectations for ALL Marines assigned to AAS are as follows:**

- Share and borrow ideas eagerly.
- Communicate freely; Anticipate problems and aggressively seek solutions.
- Respect others and expect strong performance.
- Provide frank assessments of training and instructional effectiveness;
- Avoid Complacency. Ensure that Safety and Risk Management are ingrained into everything we do.
- Be responsible for the energy you bring – EVERYDAY!

**Semper Fidelis,  
Colonel Benjamin M. Venning, USMC  
Commanding Officer, Assault Amphibian School**