Objectives of Leadership

Primary – Accomplish the mission.
Secondary – Welfare of your Marines.

Indications of Military Leadership

MORALE is the state of mind of the individual. This state of mind is dependent upon his/her attitude towards everything that affects him/her.
DISCIPLINE is the prompt obedience to orders and in the absence of orders, the initiation of appropriate action.
ESPIRIT DE CORPS is the loyalty to, pride in and enthusiasm for a unit shown by the members of that unit.
PROFICIENCY is the technical, tactical, and physical ability to do a job well.

Leadership Principles

1. Be technically and tactically proficient.
2. Know yourself and seek self-improvement.
3. Know your Marines and look out for their welfare.
4. Keep your Marines informed.
5. Set the example.
6. Ensure that the task is understood, supervised, and accomplished.
7. Train your Marines as a team.
8. Make sound and timely decisions.
9. Develop a sense of responsibility among subordinates.
10. Employ your command in accordance with its capabilities.
11. Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions.

Honor      Courage      Commitment
### Definitions

**LEADERSHIP** is the sum of those qualities of intellect, human understanding, and moral character that enables a person to inspire and to control a group of people successfully.

**LEADERSHIP TRAITS** or characteristics are those qualities of personality which are of greatest assistance in obtaining confidence, respect, obedience and loyal cooperation.

**LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLES** are actions taken by the leader. A leadership technique should:

1. Be guided by the Leadership Principles.
2. Exhibit the good traits of the commander.
3. Be consistent with the situation.
4. Contribute towards accomplishing, or accomplish, one or both of the responsibilities of a commander.

**COMBAT EFFICIENCY** is the ability of the unit to accomplish an assigned mission in the shortest possible time with the minimum loss of life and waste of material.

### Essential Leadership Traits

**Integrity** – Uprightness of character and soundness of moral principal, absolute truthfulness and honesty.

**Knowledge** – Acquired information, including professional knowledge and an understanding of your Marines.

**Courage** – A mental quality that recognizes fear of danger or criticism but enables one to proceed in the face of it with calmness and firmness.

**Decisiveness** – Ability to reach decisions promptly and to announce them in a clear forceful manner.

**Dependability** – The certainty of the proper performance of duty.

**Initiative** – Seeing what has to be done and commencing a course of action, even in the absence of orders.

**Tact** – The ability to deal with others without creating offense.

**Justice** – The quality of being impartial and consistent in exercising command.

### Essential Leadership Traits (continued)

**Enthusiasm** – The display of sincere interest and exuberance in the performance of duty.

**Bearing** – Creating a favorable impression in carriage, appearance and personal conduct at all times.

**Endurance** – The mental and physical stamina measured by the ability to stand pain, fatigue, distress and hardship.

**Unselfishness** – Avoidance of providing for ones comfort and personal advancement at the expense of others.

**Loyalty** – Faithfulness to country, Corps, unit, and to your seniors and subordinates.

**Judgment** – The quality of weighing facts and possible solutions on which to base decisions.

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**Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune**
Commandant of the Marine Corps
June 1920 to March 1929