



SECTOR DELAWARE BAY

COMMAND PHILOSOPHY

As I sat to write my command philosophy, I was drawn to three influential quotes shared below. Upon deep reflection, I realized they were simply a manifestation of the Core Values already instilled in all of us. So, my guidance to you is to deeply reconnect with these values personally, redefine how they influence you professionally, and consider how they collectively instill a deep sense of PRIDE in our service to the People, this great nation, and humanity.


-CAPT Jonathan Theel

Be in the Arena (Honor)

"The credit belongs to the [person] who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood..." -President Theodore Roosevelt

Always doing the right thing is hard, and what we do when others aren't watching matters just as much as when they are. We should always be able to brag about our actions to our families and the public. We must set the example that we want others to follow.

Treat Others with Moderation (Respect)

"They will endeavor to overcome difficulties... by a cool and temperate perseverance in their duty - by address and moderation rather than by vehemence or violence." -Secretary A. Hamilton

The Coast Guard is clear: "We treat each other and those we serve with fairness, dignity, respect, and compassion." We won't all approach things the same way but we must always create an environment where each person feels welcomed, valued, and able to perform at their best.

Strive for Perfection (Devotion to Duty)

"We will chase perfection, and we will chase it relentlessly, knowing all the while we can never attain it. But along the way, we shall catch excellence." -Coach Vince Lombardi

Superb performance is easy to recognize and is contagious. Show disciplined initiative and seek greater responsibility. We must also invest in our future because today's junior members are tomorrow's leaders; they will have to face an unknown future with the Service we leave behind.

Have a bias for action, intervene when needed, and be brave enough to do the right thing, Always!