

**LTC JAMES M. KENNEDY'S
RULES OF ENGAGEMENT
FOR
1ST BATTALION 143RD FIELD ARTILLERY**

1. **Almost all mistakes are forgivable.** If soldiers are not making mistakes then they are not training. Honest mistakes are just that. Mistakes dealing with Drug, Alcohol, and or Safety are not forgivable.
2. **Tell me the truth.** If you tell me a bold faced lie and you know it to be such pack your bags...you're out of here when I find out. I know that the truth can change when staffing actions. As we staff actions and or do missions and the situation changes keep me informed.
3. **Unlike wine, bad news doesn't get better with age.** This one is self explanatory. Don't let me get a call from the DIVARTY Commander or the Division Commander or their staffs asking me questions about events that have happen in our battalion and I'm unaware of the event.
4. **Don't let my lack of micro-management be misperceived as a lack of interest.** Each soldier in this Battalion has a job to do...with proper guidance, training and resources each soldier must accomplish his/her mission. I will not micro-manage any soldier or officer. However, I have a keen interest in everything that happens in this battalion.
5. **There are no dumb questions!!! And if I don't know the answer then we'll find out the answer together.** Asking questions is training.
6. **I'm your champion of all causes.** I'll support any soldier in this command to the ends of the earth as long as that soldier is sincere and the cause is just or improves the life of the soldier, his family and or this command.
7. **Officers do Officers' work and NCOs do NCOs' work.** Use the chain of command. Officers ensure your NCOs know what their jobs and roles are. NCOs, you ensure your soldiers know what their jobs are.
8. **Keep the entire staff engaged.** Full timers, let the M-day staff, commanders, officers and NCOs know what's going on in our battalion.
9. **Members of this battalion will adhere to standards; Army, State, Division, DIVARTY, and Battalion.**
10. **I'm am entrusted with California's best and most precious assets: If we must go to war then let no soldier say he or she was untrained.**