



Ethics in Leadership



February 2023

Vol 1 No 2

Ethics in Leadership is published by the Rocky Mountain Region Chaplain Corps on a monthly basis. It is distributed to staff and other CAP leaders with the approval of the region commander.

Each of us needs a personal set of values on which to anchor our lives. In CAP, we have Core Values. Values, by themselves, are thoughts and wishes. They are a great start, but how do we put them into action? **Affirmations** are a way to bring values to life, they become actionable. Here are seven affirmations that support the Core Values.

1. **I will live each day with courage. I will put integrity into everything I do.** Courage is standing up for the things in which you believe measured by actions and words. Compassion and forgiveness are a function of courage.
2. **I will always finish what I start.** Take an inventory of your resources, including time, health and family, needed to complete a project. Don't commit to something if your resources are inadequate for completion.
3. **I will do what has to be done.** Take responsibility for the hard parts of your job. Some aspects may be delegated, but in the end, a leader doesn't sidestep the unpleasant tasks. These almost always involve personal accountability and often affect other's lives. Approach them with courage.
4. **When I make a promise, I will keep it. My word is my bond. My reputation is staked upon this premise.** Others will not follow or support a leader who makes empty promises. Don't promise above what you can deliver.
5. **I will ride for the brand.** Loyalty is a highly valued commodity in short supply in today's world. Each generation seems to have their own definition of loyalty. If you "hang your hat in the boss's bunkhouse", you are beholden to him and his spread. Be careful where you hang your hat.
6. **I will talk less and say more.** Be judged by your actions, not your words. Don't talk the talk if you can't walk the walk. Lead by example. Be active in showing the way.
7. **I will know where to draw the line.** You can be pushed but only so far. Know where your "line in the sand" is and make sure others know, as well. Keep your standards high and don't give in to the little things that will erode your foundation. Check your foundation daily and shore it up where it needs help. Build upon a rock that will withstand the storms of the day.

These affirmations are drawn from Code of the West.