



## USS FORREST SHERMAN COMMAND PHILOSOPHY:

*“Mission Accomplishment by Navy Professionals”*

I am committed to making our ship the very best destroyer possible while ensuring that each professional on our ship has the opportunity to become his/her personal best. I will challenge you, but I will also give you the support needed to succeed. Together, we will always find a way to accomplish the mission — whether it is a real-world operation or a training event — so long as we remember that we are Navy professionals and act accordingly. Professionals are disciplined and focused on constant improvement. Professionals have high standards. Professionals plan and prepare to execute each event with total precision. Professionals seek excellence, not mediocrity.

My long-term priorities are designed to ensure mission success and will never change:

- **Training** – Knowledge is power. Professionals study and work hard to become masters of their craft. Practice is key. Professionals prepare by going through the process of countless reps and sets to make sure they perform when it matters.
- **Maintenance** – Material readiness takes work and discipline. Professionals know standards, use procedures, identify problems, and drive solutions. Our ship must be spotless and well preserved. Professionals take pride in their work and their workplace.
- **Safety** – Hazards should be avoided when able and managed whenever necessary for mission success. Professionals think ahead in a methodical manner, make risk decisions at the right levels, and take actions to keep the ship and their shipmates as safe as possible.

My expectations for professionals aboard our ship are designed for mission/personnel success:

- **Do Your Best** – Do the best you can at all you do. Enthusiasm matters! I don't expect perfection, but I do expect perfect effort. Learn from both successes and failures.
- **Maintain Your Integrity** – Do the right thing even when others aren't watching. I have zero tolerance for those without honor. Integrity is the bedrock for trust.
- **Respect One Another** – Treat others with dignity and respect. Understand that our diversity makes us a stronger team. Disagreements are okay; disrespect is not.
- **Make Good Choices** – Consistently make prudent decisions both on and off duty. Remember that success is a matter of choice, not of chance.
- **Be Team Players** – Teamwork is a must at sea. Check your ego at the door and put team successes ahead of individual successes. First ship, then shipmates, and last self.

**Leaders** at all levels on our ship **must lead**. We have an absolute responsibility to do so. Therefore, I will consistently seek to lead by example and will hold you accountable for doing the same. Know yourself, know the professionals who work for you, and take care of our ship and shipmates by making both better every single day. Finally, let's take care of our families back home and let's maintain a family spirit out here at sea as we have fun together serving our country!

CDR T. C. ZENNER

*DDG-98 Professionals Pound the Rock Every Day  
Relentless Fighting Spirit*