

# Commanding Officer Marine Wing Communications Squadron -18 Hazing Statement

Hazing is contrary to our core values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment and is prejudicial to good order and discipline. Those who commit acts of hazing violate our institutional character and damage our most precious assets – Marines and Sailors. Hazing, in any form, is not tolerated in this squadron. Within our unit, this is an absolute standard that we will uphold. The expectation is that our Marines will settle for nothing less and our leaders will aggressively uphold this standard.



In support of our traditions and heritage, we celebrate professional achievements. These events include hails and farewells, promotion and graduation ceremonies, mess nights, dining in/out, and other similar activities. These events enhance morale, esprit de corps, pride, professionalism, and unit cohesion. Do not confuse military ceremony and tradition with proclaimed “rites of passage” that amount to nothing more than outright foolishness.

We will prevent hazing in our squadron using three concurrent actions.

- a. Training. Hazing awareness and military tradition will be incorporated at all levels of training and will be reinforced by fire team through squadron leadership.
- b. Reporting. We will report all violations via the chain of command. In order to prevent hazing, Marines of all ranks must be comfortable reporting incidents to their chain of command. Engaged leadership at all levels is critical. We must remain vigilant in order to rapidly identify hazing and act.
- c. Investigation. All allegations of hazing will be investigated thoroughly in accordance with the references. At the conclusion of the investigation, any criminal behavior will be handled appropriately.

We will relentlessly pursue a positive command climate which does not tolerate hazing in any form. Our leadership, at all levels, will ensure this standard is upheld and will take aggressive action as required. This standard empowers our Marines, enhances readiness, and fosters a climate of respect.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Cleaver".

T. J. Cleaver  
Lieutenant Colonel, USMC  
Commanding Officer