



**Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 1
Commanding Officer's Policy Statement on
Sexual Assault**



Sexual assault impedes a unit or individual's morale, effectiveness, efficiency, and impairs the ability of the Marine Corps to function smoothly. Sexual assault differs from sexual harassment and falls outside the purview of equal opportunity. Sexual assaults are criminal acts of violence and aggression involving a non-consensual act of a sexual nature used to affect power and control over the victim. There is zero tolerance for sexual assault in MWHS-1 and in the Marine Corps. Every allegation of sexual assault will be reported to law enforcement. In appropriate cases, I will initiate judicial or adverse administrative action.

Incidents of sexual assault often occur following excessive alcohol consumption. If you are planning on, or are engaging in sexual activity, both parties must consent. Engaging in sexual activity while intoxicated is a dangerous practice. By doing so, one risks becoming a victim of or being accused of committing a sexual assault.

If you are a victim of sexual assault, I encourage you to make a complete, unrestricted report in order to help eradicate sexual assault from our Corps and potentially prevent others from becoming victims. However, you have two methods of reporting the assault: unrestricted and restricted reporting. Contact the MWHS-1 Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA) at 645-3840 or (cell) 090-6861-5459. You may also call the sexual assault hotline at 645-HOPE (on base) or 098-970-HOPE (off base). Information is also available on the MWHS-1 website at <http://www.marines.mil/unit/1stairwing/mwhs1/Pages/default.aspx>. Victim safety is paramount. Victims choosing to make a restricted report will have the choice honored to the fullest extent. Victims with the courage to file an unrestricted report should feel confident their personal safety is secure and they will not be re-victimized by MWHS-1 or members of the command.

For all Marines and Sailors, ensure that a person who is sexually assaulted (male or female) is not re-victimized. Sexual assault victims shall be treated with fairness, dignity, sensitivity and without prejudice. They shall be treated in a manner that does not usurp control from the victim, but enables the victim to determine their needs and how to meet them.

Semper Fidelis,

JOSEPH E. RUPP
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Commanding Officer
Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 1