



SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Commanding General's Policy Statement

The goal of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW) Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) policy is to encourage the factors which contribute to the formation of a positive command climate conducive to the elimination of sexual assault. Sexual assault is a crime, and it will not be tolerated. Sexual assault can occur without regard to gender, spousal relationship, or age and runs counter to our values as Marines and members of this Aircraft Wing.

What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, physical threat of force, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent and it will not be tolerated. ***Consent shall not be deemed or constructed to mean the failure by the victim to offer physical resistance. Consent is not given when a person uses force, coercion, or when the victim is asleep, incapacitated, or unconscious.***

Your Role in Preventing Sexual Assault

Every member of this Wing is responsible for creating an environment in which all Marines, Sailors, and civilians are treated with dignity and respect. Statistics indicate that the majority of sexual assaults are Marines attacking other Marines. Equally disturbing is the fact that bystanders, in many cases a fellow Marine or group of Marines, have witnessed these life-changing crimes and done nothing to stop them. This is equal in egregiousness to the crime itself. Marines must demonstrate the moral courage to intervene when their instincts tell them that a situation is deteriorating and they see the potential for a sexual assault emerging.

Alcohol is a common denominator that fuels dangerous and potentially criminal situations. Alcohol is not an excuse for poor decisions or misconduct, period.

Any victim of sexual assault must have confidence in our unwavering commitment to ensure that he or she will be treated with dignity, sensitivity, and respect and receive the appropriate medical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual assistance required. Those who report sexual assault incidents must feel confident their personal safety will be protected and they will not be re-victimized by the organization. Victims who choose to report an assault as an unrestricted report must have confidence that their identity will be released only to those with a need to know. Those victims who make a restricted report will have their privacy honored to the fullest extent possible, while being provided the appropriate requested care.

Commanders will be familiar with the contents of MCO 1752.5B, "Sexual Assault Prevention and Response" and ensure that all commands throughout the Wing are focusing their fullest energies on preventing sexual assault.

Where cause exists, appropriate legal or administrative action will be taken against violators of this policy.

Reference: MCO 1752.5C, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program.

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