



## **Commanding Officer's Policy Statement on Sexual Assault**



Sexual assault is a crime that will not be tolerated in MACG-18. It is not unique to any gender, race, sexual orientation, or age and it leaves a blemish on our proud reputation as United States Marines. Sexual assault erodes unity, trust, and teamwork. It also undermines unit cohesion, Esprit de Corps, readiness, and our ability to fight. Engaged leadership is our greatest weapon in combatting sexual assault, but it will take all Marines to stop this issue.

Those who commit sexual assault will be held accountable under the UCMJ. Every individual is responsible and accountable for knowing what constitutes acceptable behavior and what actions the command must take action on in accordance with MCO 1752.5B.

Every individual, regardless of rank has an active role to play in preventing and protecting their comrades in arms from violation of body, mind, spirit, and trust. We each have a responsibility to speak up and hold those who violate that trust accountable.

For Marine, Sailors, or civilians who may have been violated: I want you to be confident that your Command team wants you to come forward and get the help you need and deserve. We will work tirelessly to ensure that you have all of the resources, (spiritual, psychological, medical, legal, and social services), that we can bring to bear at your disposal as we help you to try and regain what you have lost. You will be treated with dignity and respect. MACG-18 will treat every instance of sexual assault, both reports and allegations, with strict confidentiality and professionalism.

In MACG-18 all need to understand the correlation between alcohol consumption and the increased risk for a sexual assault to occur. Therefore, it is imperative for all to understand that in order to stop one behavior we must reduce and fight against the other. Every individual has a role in protecting each other from this heinous crime.

If you are the victim of an assault, contact your squadron Uniformed Victim Advocate or the Marine Corps Base Butler Sexual Assault Support Line to speak to a Victim Advocate. For additional information regarding the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program, please contact the 1<sup>st</sup> MAW Sexual Assault Response Coordinator.

MCB Butler Sexual Assault Support Line: DSN 645-HOPE / 098-970-HOPE

1st MAW Sexual Assault Response Coordinator: DSN 645-2938

C. R. DOTY  
COLONEL, U.S. MARINE CORPS  
COMMANDING OFFICER