



# COMMANDING OFFICER'S POLICY LETTER

## SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE (SAPR)

As your Commanding Officer, I am ultimately responsible for the health, welfare, morale, and discipline of every Marine and Sailor in this command. However, I cannot manage these responsibilities on my own – I need Marines at every level to look out for each other like family. Sexual assault, harassment, retaliation, and ostracism are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. These actions violate our Core Values and erode the trust that binds us as warfighters and teammates. Leaders at every level are responsible for fostering a climate of professionalism, respect, and accountability where misconduct is reported without fear and corrected without delay.

### WHAT IS SEXUAL ASSAULT?

**Sexual assault is a crime.** It is *incompatible with our Core Values* of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. It destroys trust, tears apart teams, and will be met with swift, firm action.

Each of us bears a personal commitment to maintaining a healthy environment that promotes well-being, mission accomplishment, and team cohesion. **What we allow is what we condone.** Every Marine has a role in preventing harm, supporting victims, and safeguarding our collective reputation.

### REPORTING OPTIONS AND RESOURCES

If you have been sexually assaulted, support is available. You may choose either:

1. **Restricted** (confidential): Provides access to care and advocacy without initiating an investigation.
2. **Unrestricted:** Notifies the chain of command and initiates a law enforcement investigation while still providing access to all services.

The SAPR Victim Advocates (VA) and the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) are available 24/7. Legal support is available through the Victims' Legal Counsel (VLC) program. All reports will be handled professionally, with respect for confidentiality and access to necessary care and services. For more info, refer to MCO 1752.5C or the **QR codes below**.

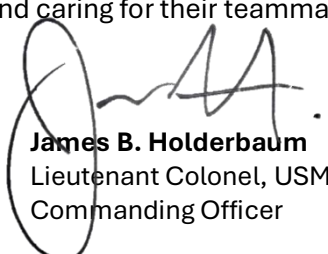
### PREVENTION FOCUS

Prevention is not a PowerPoint slide — it is daily leadership. It means building connectedness, holding each other accountable, and setting the tone before something goes wrong. Bystander intervention, leadership engagement, and trust-based relationships are our first line of defense.

### CLOSING CHARGE

Everyone has a responsibility for preventing sexual assault in this command. We will uphold our values, protect one another, and strengthen the legacy we inherit through trust, action, and accountability.

**TRUST IS OUR CURRENCY.** I expect every Marine and Sailor to earn it daily — by leading, protecting, and caring for their teammates.



**James B. Holderbaum**  
Lieutenant Colonel, USMC  
Commanding Officer

#### SAPR RESOURCES

