

**Commanding Officer
Marine Wing Communications Squadron 18
Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Policy**

Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, threats, intimidation, or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot give consent. It is a crime that is not restricted to gender, race, or age.

Sexual assault will not be tolerated in this unit. Those who commit acts of sexual assault violate our institutional character and damage our most precious asset - our Marines. The expectation is that our Marines will thrive in a climate of appropriate conduct on and off duty, and that our leaders will aggressively uphold the standards of professionalism and dignity. Sexual assault is a crime and those involved will be treated accordingly.

Marines are mandated to report incidents of sexual assault that come under their observation (e.g., witness a sexual assault) and sexual harassment. Any reports, indications, or warnings of misconduct must warrant immediate action by the leaders of this unit. This standard is absolute.

Today's Marine Corps offers innumerable services to aid victims in the long and difficult recovery process associated with the aftermath of sexual assault. Leadership at every level must thoroughly understand the resources offered to victims of sexual assault. We must all ensure our Marines are aware of and have rapid access to these resources as required.

Together, we will relentlessly pursue a positive command climate which has zero tolerance for sexual assault or harassment in any form. Leaders will ensure this standard is upheld and will take aggressive action as required. This standard empowers our Marines, enhances unit readiness, and fosters a climate of respect.

Additional information and assistance are available through the command's Uniformed Victim Advocates (UVA), the 1st MAW Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), and the Marine Corps Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program (MCO 1752.5B).

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