



Marine Wing Support Squadron – 172 Commanding Officer's Statement On Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR)



SEXUAL ASSAULT IS A CRIME. It is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, physical threat, abuse of authority, or when a victim does not or cannot consent. Victims may be uniformed service members, civilians, or dependents. The bottom line is "no" means "no" and "maybe" also means "no." An individual that is intoxicated or inebriated cannot give consent. **OUR Squadron has an absolute zero tolerance for sexual assault.**

Should a member of the Squadron become a victim of sexual assault, we will do everything in our power to protect them and ensure they immediately receive the resources they require. **Sexual Assault is a threat that we must be vigilant against.** We will do this through prevention and response education and establishing a command climate that supports victims and deters our personnel from engaging in these acts. I expect all Marines and Sailors in Marine Wing Support Squadron - 172 to be active "watch standers" against this scourge and to be familiar with sexual assault reporting procedures. If you are unsure, our Uniformed Victim Advocates (UVA) are available and ready to assist.

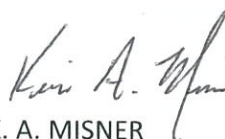
There are two methods available to a victim can when reporting a Sexual Assault:

1. **Restricted reporting** means the victim makes a confidential report to the UVA, Chaplain, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, Military Healthcare personnel, or a Marine and Family Service Counselor. They will be able to receive support from victim advocates, but they will not be able to pursue legal recourse nor will the Command or Law Enforcement know their identify or become involved.
2. **Unrestricted reporting** means a victim chooses to report the assault to someone other than those listed above. If that is the option decided upon by the victim, we have an obligation to report all allegations to the appropriate authorities first and then to the Chain of Command. The appropriate authorities are NCIS and PMO.

If an Unrestricted Report is filed, Leadership will take the following steps:

- 1) **Ensure the person making the allegation is safe**
- 2) **Notify Law Enforcement**
- 3) **Notify a SAPR professional**
- 4) **Support the Marine or Sailor through the entire process**

With our commitment and actions, we can protect our personnel and their families and ultimately help rid our Corps of Sexual Assault occurrences.


K. A. MISNER
"Firebird 6"