



VMM-262 FLYING TIGER SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE



Sexual assault is a crime that is not unique to any gender, race, or age. Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, physical threat of force, or authority; or when the victim does not or cannot consent.

Sexual assault will not be tolerated in the Flying Tiger family. Failure to report or ignoring sexual assault incidents will have damaging consequences for both survivors and our squadron. Where cause exists, appropriate legal and or administrative action will be taken against violators.

Survivors will be treated with sensitivity, decency, respect, and will receive appropriate medical, emotional, psychological, and social service support. Care will be given to ensure the identity of a survivor is released only to those who have a need-to-know (for example, the Commanding Officer, Provost Marshal's Office, or Naval Criminal Investigative Service personnel). **Survivor safety is paramount at all times.** Survivors who choose to make a Restricted Report in accordance with Marine Corps Order 1752.5B (Sexual Assault Prevention and Response [SAPR] Program) will have that choice honored to the fullest extent. Survivors who have the courage to report must feel confident their personal safety will be protected and that they will not be victimized by our organization. Marines and Sailors who are sexually assaulted are physically, mentally, and emotionally traumatized and deserve to be treated with sensitivity and care.

Alcohol use is frequently cited in sexual assault incidents. Irresponsible consumption of alcohol places a Marine or Sailor at increased risk. It is imperative that we take care of each other and not allow our brothers and sisters to be victimized due to intoxication.

Being an active bystander is the key to eliminating this plague from our Corps. Active bystanders:

- Take the initiative to help someone who may be a target of sexual assault
- Take the initiative to help others who are not thinking clearly from becoming alleged offenders

As an active bystander, remember to:

- **Assess the situation** for safety to you and/or the targeted individual
- **Engage** with others to help stop the situation from escalating
- **Check** with the potential target to see if he/she is okay; help them get home safely; ask him/her if they want to talk to someone about reporting the incident

Sexual assault is an affront to the core values of our squadron and Corps. Eliminating sexual assault will take an all-hands effort. I challenge each and every member of the Flying Tiger family to accept responsibility for achieving our goal of eliminating sexual assault from our command and our Corps. Our squadron and Marine Corps family deserve nothing less than our complete dedication to this cause. **Be your brother's and sister's keeper and commit yourself to protecting our family and our institution.**

Lieutenant Colonel Garth W. Burnett
Commanding Officer, Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 262

The Flying Tigers