



MWSS-172 Combat Operational Stress Control Policy

Every Firebird and their family is critical to our mission. We cannot do what we do without each of our Firebirds and our Firebird family.

During times of conflict, leaders are reminded of our duty to lead with proficiency and to take care of our Marines and Sailors. Ensuring the wellbeing of Marines and Sailors includes not only strengthening them, but also keeping them strong, monitoring their condition, applying first aid when they are injured, and returning them to full fitness as soon as possible.

However, there is much more to caring for our Marines and Sailors than their physical health. Caring for their psychological health is just as crucial. Preserving the psychological health of our Firebirds and their families is of paramount concern to mission readiness. Just as one would go to medical for a physical injury, we should seek mental health professionals or counselors if we have a psychological injury.

The Combat Operational Stress Control program enables a cohesive ready force and promotes long-term health and wellbeing among Marines, Sailors, and their family members.

This program helps us to understand the daily stresses each of us encounters daily. Understanding stress reactions and proactively addressing stressors increases mission readiness, preserves the force, and promotes long-term health. All Marines, Sailors, civilians and their families are encouraged to utilize medical, mental health professionals, religious ministry teams, Marine and Family Programs personnel and resources to aide in promoting psychological resilience.

We must have the ability to train and sustain a combat ready and resilient force capable of accomplishing any mission. The Operational Stress Control and Readiness (OSCAR) Teams will assist us in maintaining our warfighting capabilities by addressing the impacts of stress in the unit. As part of our commitment to excellence, the Firebirds will participate in COSC activities.

The COSC five Core Leader Functions promote principles of wellness, prevention, early intervention, identification, reintegration, and reduction of stigma and will form the foundation for this command's COSC program.

MWSS-172 shall incorporate COSC principles across the squadron, including family readiness programs. This will assist prevention efforts and create a climate where stress issues are identified and addressed quickly without stigma or career degradation.

For more information contact our COSC representative 1stLt Glenda Sanchez at 645-2983 or glenda.l.sanchez@usmc.mil.


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