



Commanding Officer's Policy on Sexual Assault Prevention and Response



RESPONSIBLE, READY, RELEVANT

Responsible Marines and Sailors treat each other with dignity and respect, fostering an environment that increases readiness. Sexual assault is an illegal and immoral criminal activity that negatively impacts both the victim and our family. Sexual assault will not be tolerated within Marine Air Control Squadron 2.

This command holds offenders accountable and gives victims the immediate support and care they require.

Sexual assault is inconsistent with our core values: honor, courage, and commitment. Sexual assault is intentional sexual contact characterized by the use of force, threats, intimidation or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault can happen to anyone, regardless of age, gender, or rank. Sexual assault is punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Strong leadership, particularly among peers, is essential to sexual assault prevention. The foundation for that leadership is unit education and training that emphasizes prevention and response—including care and protection for those who have been assaulted. I charge leaders at all levels to become familiar with MCO 1752.5B. Failure to report or ignoring incidents of sexual assault degrades trust and may have damaging consequences for the victims, our squadron, and the Marine Corps. Where cause exists, appropriate legal and/or administrative action will be taken against violators.

Demonstrate the strength and courage to step-up and remove a fellow Marine from a situation which could lead to a sexual assault. Protect each other. Police your own ranks. If a sexual assault occurs, intervene, stop the crime, and report it to your chain of command and law enforcement authorities. **Do not allow anyone to violate others.**

Victims will be treated with sensitivity, decency, and respect, and will receive appropriate medical, emotional, psychological, and social services. Care will be given to ensure the identity of a victim is released only to those who have a need-to-know (i.e., the unit commander, PMO, or NCIS). Victim safety is paramount at all times. Victims who choose to make a Restricted Report will have that choice honored to the fullest extent. Victims who have the courage to report must feel confident their personal safety will be protected and they will not be re-victimized by their unit. The victims of sexual assault are physically, mentally, and emotionally traumatized. They deserve to be treated with sensitivity and care.

If you are a victim of sexual assault contact your Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), the sexual assault helpline, healthcare provider, Chaplain, or Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) as soon as possible. **The MCAS Cherry Point 24/7 Sexual Assault Helpline is (252) 665-4713, the MCAS New River 24/7 Sexual Assault Helpline is (910) 238-6384, the MCAS Beaufort 24/7 Sexual Assault Helpline is (843) 321-6009, and the DoD Safe Helpline is (877) 995-5247.** *Victims of sexual assault will be treated with the highest regard of sensitivity and respect. The immediate safety and treatment of the victim is my primary concern at all times.*

Sexual assault degrades the readiness of the Corps. We must maintain constant vigilance in order to rid the Corps of these intolerable acts. Our comrades and our family members at home deserve nothing less than our complete dedication to eliminating sexual assault.

J. B. NAYLOR
Lieutenant Colonel, USMC
Commanding

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