



Marine Air Support Squadron 1 Commanding Officer's Substance Abuse Policy Statement

When it comes down to it, life is about choices. Substance abuse is one of those things that takes away choices, often immediately. Substance abuse is one of the most corrosive things someone can do to their body, mind, and spirit. Substance abuse is corrosive to a unit for a number of reasons. Abuse is rarely limited to an individual but rather exploitive and dangerous to the many individuals that surround that person. I don't know anyone that wakes up and says, "Today I'm going to destroy my life and the lives of my family and friends." However, that is exactly the course that one sets on when they choose to use and abuse. What is also concerning to me is the phenomena of what starts as legal prescribed use for legitimate injury or ailment but, over time, turns to addiction. Leaders need to be aware of the signs of abuse and be prepared to take appropriate action. Look for the hand being extended and grab hold, a life is on the line.

All Marines will read and adhere to MCO 1700.22E and MCO 5300.17. These orders govern the use and control of alcohol, illegal drugs, the illegal use of prescription drugs, and drug paraphernalia.

Any Marine abusing drugs and alcohol will be referred to a Substance Abuse Counselor for a Medical Officer or Counselor's evaluation and assigned to the appropriate level of treatment. Any Marine that tests positive for illegal drugs will be charged under the UCMJ and processed appropriately.

Alfred M. Sanchez
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Commanding