



MARINE WING COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON 28 COMMANDER'S SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION POLICY



Sexual assault is not only prejudicial to good order, but also a serious crime. It is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, physical threat of force, or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault can occur without regard to gender, spousal relationship or age of victim.

"Consent shall not be deemed or construed to mean the failure by the victim to offer physical resistance. Consent is not given when a person uses force, coercion, or when the victim is asleep, incapacitated, or unconscious."

Sexual assault simply will not be tolerated. Sexual Assault is a complete and total contradiction to who we are as Marines and it simply will not be tolerated in this command. If you see a situation developing that causes you concern or encounter an actual sexual assault in progress- INTERVENE! If you fail to act, you are complicit.

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. Victim safety and rights are paramount. Victims who have the courage to report must feel confident their personal safety will be protected and they will not be re-victimized by the organization. Marines and Sailors who are sexually assaulted are physically, mentally, and emotionally traumatized. They deserve to be treated with sensitivity and care.

Reporting an incident of sexual assault may be initiated via the following reports:

- A restricted report allows the victim to receive medical, informational, advocacy, and emotion/psychological counseling support services without notification of law enforcement or the command. A restricted report can be made to a Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), Healthcare Provider (HCP), DoD Safe Helpline 24/7 (877-995-5247), or MCAS Cherry Point's Sexual Assault 24/7 Help Line (252-665-4713). In a restricted report, the victim's identity remains confidential, and not forwarded to law enforcement or the command.
- An unrestricted report also allows a victim to receive medical, informational, and emotional/psychological counseling support services and an official investigation ensues. An unrestricted report can be made to law enforcement authorities, the command, a UVA, SARC, HCP, Chaplain, DoD Safe Helpline, and the Sexual Assault Help Line. Although the victim's identity will not remain confidential, care will be given to ensure that it is released only to those with an actual need-to-know (i.e. unit commander and investigating authorities).

Sexual assault is destructive and defies our Core Values. Marine Wing Communications Squadron 28 will maintain UVAs that are trained and prepared to appropriately work through all sexual assault cases, whether a victim desires official action or someone to confide in. Regardless of rank or leadership position, it is your inherent duty to step in and take action to prevent sexual assault.

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Commanding Officer