



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE FORCES RESERVE
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FPL 1720
CMD
OCT 26 2016

FORCE POLICY LETTER 1-17

From: Commander
To: Distribution List

Subj: COMMANDER'S SUICIDE PREVENTION DIRECTIVE

Ref: (a) MARADMIN 512/14

1. Situation. During 2016, more Marines have died from suicide than in combat operations. The overwhelming majority had little, if any, combat experience. This is clear evidence that the personal challenges Marines experience, especially those involving family relationships, can be just as daunting as the operational dangers they face.

2. Mission. Implement immediate steps to mitigate the potential for future suicides or suicide related incidents utilizing available resources and leadership principles.

3. Execution

a. Commander's Intent. In keeping with the motto "Mission first, Marines always", we must constantly strive to not only prepare Marines to defeat our enemies on the battlefield, but also to handle the everyday stressors of personal life.

b. Concept of Operations

(1) All units will have an up-to-date Suicide Prevention Implementation plan, which includes national as well as local resources.

(2) Unit Marine Awareness and Prevention Integrated Training (UMAPIT) for Calendar Year 2016 will be completed by all Marines and Sailors in accordance with the reference. Beginning with Calendar Year 2017 and beyond, units will complete UMAPIT for all Marines and Sailors by June of each year.

(3) All newly joined E-5s and below will receive immediate telephonic contact information with at least the following numbers to be programmed into their cell phones in the presence of their Staff Noncommissioned Officer-in-Charge or Inspector-Instructor First Sergeant/Sergeant Major:

(a) Unit Senior Enlisted Point of Contact.

(b) Military One Source 1-800-342-9647.

(c) DStress Hotline 1-877-476-7734.

(4) Additionally, unit Family Readiness Officers will provide the above information to Marines' family members and encourage them to make contact as soon as their Marine shows signs of distress due to a sudden change in relationship, work/school, or living conditions.

(5) Institute an aggressive sponsorship program for all new joins. Assign a responsible individual of equal grade to be their peer partner. The peer will ensure the new Marine is aware of drill dates, be available to answer any questions, and check-up on the Marine in between drills. The peer will also ensure their immediate chain of command is made aware of any significant stressors the Marine experiences, such as relationship issues, loss of employment, homelessness, etc. In such cases, the Marine will be provided information and referral resources that can enable them to successfully cope with the situation.

(6) Unit leadership, if made aware of any legal, personal relationship, financial, or job change stress, will immediately order the Marine to a Psychological Health Outreach Program representative for consultation.

(7) The heart of our suicide problem lies in the age group of 21-25 years old. When Commanding Generals are forced to allocate limited resources, they will focus their efforts on this age group.

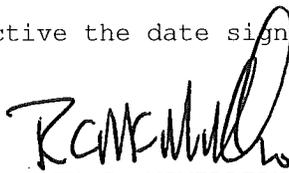
(8) Small unit leadership will always be our first line of defense. Utilizing "kneecap-to-kneecap" conversations with all Marines still remains an important aspect of this effort.

4. Administration and Logistics. Commanding Generals are not limited to the above. If the unit has a process implemented which has been working, share it with the Marine Forces Reserve (MARFORRES) Prevention Program Director, Mr. Fernando Guzman, at email fernando.guzman@usmc.mil, in order to provide feedback Force-wide.

5. Command and Signal

a. Command. This Policy is applicable to all of MARFORRES.

b. Signal. This Policy is effective the date signed.



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