



# Commanding General's Policy on Suicide Prevention



**Suicide is preventable through Leadership.** Deaths by suicide are often associated with stressors pertaining to relationships, work, pending disciplinary actions, depression, and during transitional periods in duty status or between duty stations. I have seen leaders intervene and prevent unnecessary death. I charge everyone to do the same. Leaders foster a command climate promoting fitness of mind, body, and spirit. Encourage Marines and Sailors to seek out and apply the following to succeed:



- **Take all threats seriously:** Never minimize the importance of the situation and assist the individuals promptly.
- **Remain calm and stabilize the suicide-related events/emergency:** Administer First Aid (if required), call 911, remove anything lethal from the immediate vicinity, and **DO NOT LEAVE** the service member unattended.
- **Immediately notify the chain of command:** [Suicide attempts, gestures, or ideations of any Marine, Sailor or civilian is a Commanders' Significant Notification Event and must be reported in accordance with the NAVMC 1720.1A Marine Corps Suicide Prevention System Procedures.](#)
- **Treat personnel in crisis with respect:** Protect their confidentiality and personal information. Show concern, be sympathetic, listen, offer help and hope. If the chaplain or medical personnel are present, let them handle the situation. If not, let that person be you.
- **Train every Marine and Sailor to help:** Unit Marine Awareness and Prevention Integrated Training (UMAPIT) 2.0 teaches Marines and Sailors resiliency, coping, self-support skills, decision-making, peer intervention, and intervention via social media. Complete no later than June, annually.
- **Transferring at risk Marines should not be done:** If required, call and brief the gaining command.

Suicide is an irreversible reaction to a temporary problem. We **MUST** instill the "no problem is too large to handle." I do not support a zero defect mentality, and neither should you. If you need help, get help: If you see someone struggling, give help and/or support.

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