

## COMMANDER'S SEXUAL ASSAULT

## POLICY STATEMENT

PREVENTION AND RESPONSE



Sexual assault is a crime and not compatible with Marine Corps values of HONOR, COURAGE and COMMITMENT.

- Marine Corps Order (MCO) 1752.5C

All hands will be treated with dignity and respect – always. As leaders, we all share a duty to ensure the physical, emotional, and mental safety and welfare of all personnel. Sexual assault is a crime and is a direct violation of our ethos as Marines and Sailors. The Intelligence Support Battalion (ISB) policy is clear: sexual assault *BY* anyone, *TO* anyone will not be tolerated. There is a zero-tolerance policy for sexual assault.

Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual conduct characterized using force, physical threat of force, or abuse of authority when the victim does not or cannot consent. MCO 1752.5C is the governing authority for identifying, reporting, and addressing issues associated with sexual assault. Sexual assault awareness and prevention training will be provided to all ISB personnel at least once annually. Training will focus on prevention education, risk factor awareness, reporting procedures, and victim support.

All victims of sexual assault will be treated with privacy, dignity, and respect. Every Marine must ensure that the needs of victims are compassionately met, and victims are quickly advised of their rights, options, and the resources. Leaders of all ranks will quickly refer allegations of sexual assault through the appropriate channels. No leader will slow the process by conducting independent investigation and no leader will voice any opinion on the allegation or victim. Similarly, this Command will not tolerate any reprisals against victims alleging sexual assault. Despite there being zero tolerance for sexual assault, there is nothing in this policy that should be interpreted as directing or implying a particular outcome in any case. Every case will be resolved on its own facts and with the application of due process under law.

If you are a witness to a sexual assault, you must report the offense immediately to PMO or the appropriate civilian authorities. You are also encouraged to safely intervene if you witness potentially harmful situations that could lead to sexual assault. If you have questions or are a victim of sexual assault, please contact your local or site support Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), the MARFORRES Sexual Assault Support Line at (877) 432-2215, or DoD Safe Helpline via online chat or phone at 877-995-5247. Highly trained professionals are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to ensure prompt assistance and access to resources and options. They will also explain reporting options – Restricted or Unrestricted – and guide victims through the process with military, law enforcement, and/or medical personnel, as applicable.

No training or policy, by itself, can effect change. Constant vigilance, moral courage, and dedication from each member of this command is required to eradicate sexual assault.

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