COMMANDING OFFICER'S STATEMENT ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The Marine Corps policy and commitment to equal opportunity (EO) is clear. Every member of our Detachment will be afforded an equal opportunity to serve, excel, and advance regardless of race, color, religion, gender, age, or national origin in an environment free from hostility, discrimination, and preferential treatment. Discrimination, to include sexual harassment, acts of reprisal, hazing, or any other conduct that demeans the dignity of another person, has no place in our unit and will be dealt with immediately.

Cultural diversity is one of our nation's greatest strengths. The Marine Corps also thrives upon this same distinction and we will seek to capitalize on these strengths to enable an effective fighting force. I am committed to preserving that diversity within our organization and to fostering a professional environment characterized by a positive attitude, courtesy, dignity, and respect. I expect every person within this Detachment to reflect that commitment.

It is the responsibility of leaders to care for the welfare of those in their charge by establishing and maintaining an environment that promotes equal opportunity to succeed based on one's individual merit, technical and tactical proficiency, physical and mental toughness, work ethic, and overall individual ability. Additionally, I charge leaders at every level to ensure all personnel are recognized and appreciated for their individual worth to our organization and are afforded full opportunity for professional development and achievement.

I will not tolerate discrimination in any form, or behavior that does not represent our core values of honor, courage, and commitment. Behavior of this type will not be tolerated by anyone. Any member of our Detachment who feels he or she has been harassed or discriminated against may use the informal resolution system or file a formal complaint with the chain of command in order to resolve the issue. Anyone observing acts of discrimination or sexual harassment will take immediate corrective action and report the incident through the chain of command. All formal equal opportunity complaints will be investigated by the unit EO Representative, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), or Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA). Each and every complaint will be dealt with directly and resolved promptly. Anyone found guilty of wrongful behavior will be held fully accountable.

Semper Fidelis,

George W. Markert

Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps

Commanding Officer