



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT BATTALION
SCHOOL OF INFANTRY-EAST
TRAINING COMMAND
PSC BOX 20161
CAMP LEJEUNE, NORTH CAROLINA 28542-0161

IN REPLY REFER TO:
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1HSB
11 Jul 14

POLICY LETTER 6-14

From: Commanding Officer
To: Distribution List

Subj: HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT BATTALION SEXUAL ASSAULT STATEMENT

Ref: (a) MCO 1752.5B

1. Purpose. To establish the method by which Headquarters and Support Battalion will execute the requirements contained within the reference.

2. Background. Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, threat, intimidation, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not, or cannot consent. It is a crime that not only violates the individual, but also damages the entire command. **Sexual assault is not tolerated**. Preventing sexual assault is everyone's responsibility.

3. Policy. Alcohol use is frequently cited in connection with sexual assault incidents. Irresponsible consumption of alcohol can place a Marine at an increased risk of becoming a victim or perpetrator. When appropriate, legal and/or administrative action will be taken against violators. It is imperative that Marines take care of each other to not allow a fellow Marine to be victimized due to intoxication, or to end a career if they are convicted of a sex offense.

a. Victim safety is paramount at all times. Victims of sexual assault are physically, mentally, and emotionally traumatized; they are to be treated with sensitivity, decency, and respect. Victims will receive appropriate medical, emotional, and psychological services in a timely, professional manner. Care must be taken to ensure that the identity of a victim of sexual assault is released only to those who have a valid need to know.

b. Victims who choose to make a restricted report will have the choice honored to the fullest extent. Every victim who makes a report must have confidence in the battalion and the SAPR program. Victims must know that their personal safety is protected and will not become stigmatized by members of their battalion.

c. I charge leaders at all levels to become familiar with the contents of Marine Corps Order 1752.5B. Leaders must ensure that all members of the battalion are provided with information about the SAPR program, and that they receive annual refresher training. Additional information and assistance is available through the battalion's Uniformed Victim Advocates and the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator. Eliminating sexual assault will take a coordinated effort, and I challenge everyone to accept responsibility for achieving this goal.

A large, bold, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. L. SALCIDO".

R. L. SALCIDO

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