COMMANDING OFFICER'S POLICY STATEMENT ON SEXUAL ASSAULT

Sexual Assault is defined as intentional unwanted sexual contact, characterized by use of force, physical threat of force, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent.

Sexual Assault is a crime, and Training Command will show zero tolerance for those convicted of this crime. All allegations of sexual assault will be aggressively investigated and prosecuted in accordance with governing rules and regulations. The current Marine Corps Order contains guidance for identifying, reporting, and managing the issue of sexual assault.

Our most valuable assets are our Marines, Sailors, and Civilian Marines, regardless of student or permanent personnel status. Everyone within Training Command is important and deserves the best leadership and support possible.

Sexual assault leaves an ugly mark on our honored Marine Corps reputation. In response, it is expected that all members of Training Command promptly notify their chain of command when they become aware of or suspect a sexual assault has occurred.

All leaders are expected to become familiar with the contents of the current Marine Corp Order and fully embrace their role within the Sexual Assault, Prevention and Response program. Each unit's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program should be known throughout the unit and accessible by both students and permanent personnel.

Commanding Officers are encouraged to select personnel that are best qualified to serve as Uniformed Victim Advocates (UVAs) and are able to establish a reputation of trust and confidence within the unit. These individuals should receive appropriate training to develop a better understanding of the prevention and response to sexual assault, as they will directly contribute to the success of this program.

As leaders, we must remain ever vigilant and actively engaged in providing for and protecting our personnel. Eliminating incidences of sexual assault takes a dedicated community effort and in doing so our core values of honor, courage, and commitment are maintained. I challenge each individual to accept responsibility for achieving this goal. Our Marines, Sailors, Civilian Marines, and family members deserve nothing less.

Semper Fidelis,

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