



**COMMANDING OFFICER
FIELD MEDICAL TRAINING BATTALION – EAST
POLICY STATEMENT ON SEXUAL ASSAULT**



Sexual assault is a criminal act that will not be tolerated. These crimes are not restricted by any gender, race, or age. In addition to having a devastating impact on victims, sexual assault harms friends, family members, and fellow Sailors and Marines by destroying morale and unit cohesiveness as well as Force Wide Readiness. Sexual assault is the exact opposite of treating each other with dignity and respect.

In the event that someone is sexually assaulted, it is legally and morally your responsibility to take action and report it. It is our duty to create an environment in which survivors of this crime feel safe and free to come forward to report the crime. Failure to report or ignoring sexual assault incidents result in damaging consequences for victims, their unit and our mission. It's not acceptable to remain silent. All allegations of sexual assault will be investigated and, if warranted, prosecuted via the military justice system.

Survivors of Sexual Assault will be treated with sensitivity and respect and will be assisted in their request for medical care, and be made available for every opportunity to receive emotional, psychological, and social services for their well-being. Care will be given to ensure that the identity of a victim of sexual assault is released only to those who have a need to know. Victims who choose to make a restricted report will have that choice honored to the fullest extent. Survivors who have the courage to report must feel confident that their personal safety will be protected and that they will not be re-victimized by the organization.

Sexual assault is a complete and total contradiction to our core values. Eliminating sexual assault will take a dedicated community effort. We must be willing to confront others regarding inappropriate behavior, intervene when necessary, and hold each other accountable. I challenge each leader and individual to accept responsibility for achieving this goal. Our Sailors, Marines, Civilian Marines, and family members deserve nothing less than our complete dedication to this cause.

Assistance is available via DOD Safe Helpline 877-995-5247, the Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune 24/ Sexual Assault Helpline 910-750-5852 or your Command Uniformed Victim Advocate, HM2 Morris and HM2 Tyson.

**B. G. TOLBERT
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