



SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Commanding Officer's Policy Statement

The goals of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) policy in MATSG-21 is to eliminate unprofessional behavior that wrongly sets the conditions which enable sexual assault, to ensure due process for offenders, to provide appropriate and sensitive care for victims, and to reduce the negative effect sexual assault has on MATSG readiness and our ability to accomplish the mission. Sexual assault is a crime incompatible with our values and who we are. It is every Marine, Sailor, and Civilian Marine's duty to step up and intercede to prevent sexual assault. We will ensure victims are protected, treated with dignity and respect, and provided support, advocacy, and care.

How does this impact your ability to complete your mission?

Military units that are most effective display traits such as cohesion, trust, morale, perseverance, and esprit de corps. These components are absolutely essential in our aviation profession and our profession of arms. Unprofessional behavior and conditions that allow sexual assault to occur erode these traits, and degrade our ability to accomplish the mission.

What do I want you to do?

1. Eliminate behavior that violates the Marine Corps ethos and core values, and tarnishes the prestige of the Marine Corps and MATSG-21.
2. Maintain a climate that is respectful to all.
3. When witnessing an actual or attempted physical or sexual assault upon another person, notify law enforcement immediately as well as your Chain of Command. Avoid questioning a victim about the incident unless required in the course of official duties. Victim safety and privacy are paramount.
4. Complete annual training on sexual assault prevention and awareness.
5. Never engage in commentary or publish content on social networking platforms or through other forms of communication that harm good order and discipline or that brings discredit upon yourself, your unit, or the Marine Corps.
6. Know the definition of consent, what constitutes sexual assault, and why it is a crime. Be aware of the available reporting options, exceptions, and limitations of each option. Become familiar with the available military and civilian resources for victims. Understand the distinction between sexual assault, sexual harassment, and other types of sexual-related misconduct. Know the methods of prevention and risk reduction, to include bystander intervention.

Reference: MCO 1752.5B, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program; MARADMIN 008/17, Social Media Guidance- Unofficial Internet Posts


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