



COMMANDING GENERAL'S POLICY STATEMENT ON SEXUAL ASSAULT



The Marines, Sailors, and civilians of this command are its most precious assets. As such, we must not only see to their professional and personal development, we must also ensure their safety and well-being. Preventing sexual assaults is one way in which we accomplish this.

Sexual assault is a crime and will not be tolerated in Training Command. It is defined as intentional sexual contact characterized by the use of force, threats, intimidation, or abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent. It is not unique to any gender, age, or race, and unfortunately is occurring within our ranks. This must stop now! The "**Training Command Five**" principles will guide our actions in this regard.

Mission First: Sexual assaults destroy trust within a command; they degrade unit cohesion and diminish units' ability to accomplish their mission. Eliminating sexual assaults by strengthening a culture of prevention through risk reduction, education and training, and offender accountability will enhance the safety, well-being, and readiness of our Marines, Sailors, and civilians and allow them to focus on the accomplishment of our common mission.

Leadership By Example: Those who lead by example treat all people with respect and dignity and live by our Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. They do not perpetrate intolerable acts of sexual assault, or tolerate those who do. They remain ever diligent to the indications and warnings that they, or their fellow Marines, Sailors, and civilians may be setting the conditions, or placing themselves in environments where, these acts can occur, and quickly take corrective action to prevent them. This responsibility to intervene and educate applies to us all.

Balanced Excellence: Marines are expected to succeed in everything we do. This includes eradicating sexual assault within this command. Failure to do so detrimentally impacts our ability to excel in other areas. In fact, inexcusable acts of sexual assault not only harms our people, they can also result in destroyed relationships, ended careers, broken character, and the downward spiral of the victim's and perpetrator's personal and professional lives.

Seek Improvement: Understanding one's weaknesses and seeking ways to improve on them is a sign of strength. We all need to assess how our actions could lead to actual, or perceived, incidents of sexual assaults and work to either change them, or seek other's assistance in holding us accountable to prevent incidents from occurring.

Character: Sexual assaults are illegal, immoral, and against our core values. People of character protect others and assist their fellow Marines, Sailors, and civilians from making irrevocable mistakes. We are in this fight together. Demonstrate your character by taking an active role to eliminate this intolerable act.

Any individual who believes they have been sexually assaulted, or seeks additional information or assistance, should contact their command's Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), or the Training Command Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARCs), Cassandra Valentine or Eleanore Ashman at 240-435-0415.

Any Marine or Sailor who is unsure if she/he has been involved in or a witness to a sexual assault should consider approaching their respective chains of command or UVA for assistance. Consideration will be given to those who take responsibility for their actions.

God Bless and Semper Fi,

J. Q. Bohm

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Commanding General
Training Command