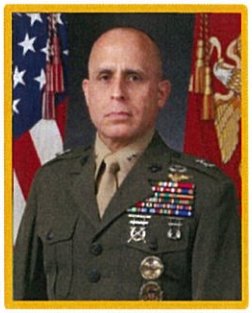

COMMANDING GENERAL'S POLICY STATEMENT ON SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION & RESPONSE (SAPR)

As your Marine Corps Installations Pacific Commanding General, **it is my responsibility to provide supervision of the command's Sexual Assault Prevention & Response (SAPR) Program.** Sexual assault is defined as a crime of intentional sexual contact which employs the use of force, physical threat of force, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent.

Sexual assault will not be tolerated! We have a specific responsibility to eliminate sexual assault within Marine Corps Installations Pacific Command, to assist those Marines, Sailors, and civilians and families affected by sexual assault, and to ensure that sexual assault victims are treated fairly, with dignity, and without prejudice. **Therefore, it is vital that sexual assaults be reported.** All MCIPAC members who witness a sexual assault are required to report the crime to their chain of command or law enforcement. All MCIPAC members are required to report a sexual assault to the chain of command or law enforcement when disclosures of sexual assault are made to them. Ignoring or failing to report sexual assault incidents will have damaging consequences for the victim and the command…**it will tear apart our cohesion and destroy our combat readiness.**

I task Marines and Sailors to do your best to remove barriers to reporting and build a climate supportive of those who report sexual assault. **You must be courageous and take the right action.** Leadership at all levels will ensure anyone reporting sexual assault will be treated with dignity and respect, and will receive appropriate care and services. Leadership will also protect those who report sexual assault from coercion, intimidation, or retaliation. Where cause exists, appropriate legal action or administrative action will be taken against violators.

All Marines and Sailors have a responsibility to care for each other. Be proactive - report sexual assault or intervene early on to prevent sexual assault. Interventions can include moderating alcohol use, utilizing the buddy system, checking on peers, speaking up, or stepping in. Alcohol use is frequently cited in sexual assault incidents. Irresponsible consumption of alcohol places our Warriors at increased risk. **I want you all to take care of each other, as family, and not allow anyone to be victimized due to irresponsible alcohol consumption or intoxication.** Interventions should be positive in nature.

Sexual assault is a complete and total contradiction to the core values we all embrace. Eliminating sexual assault will take a dedicated community effort. I challenge each leader and individual to accept responsibility for achieving this goal. **Our Marine Corps family deserves nothing less than our complete dedication to the noble cause of eradicating Sexual Assault.**

Semper Fidelis,

JOAQUIN F. MALAVET
MAJOR GENERAL, U.S. MARINE CORPS
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