



Commanding Officer's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Policy



“Sexual assault is a criminal act that erodes unit cohesion and contradicts Marine Corps core values. Every Marine shall be aware of what constitutes sexual assault and the consequences of such behavior. Marines shall possess the tools to safely intervene when witnessing high-risk behaviors that may result in a sexual assault. Through training and education, the SAPR Program provides comprehensive prevention and response services to individuals impacted by this crime and addresses behaviors that can lead to sexual assault.” –MCO 1752.5C

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

Sexual Harassment is a form of sex discrimination involving unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a person's job, pay, or career, or...
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by a person is used as a basis for career or employment decisions affecting that person, or...
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment

Sexual assault is not unique to any gender, race, religion, or ethnic background. Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment has no place in our ranks. Left unchecked, it will remain a silent enemy walking amongst us – an enemy that inflicts terrible pain on its victim, destroys trust, respect, and unit cohesion and leave a lasting stain on our reputation. I expect everyone regardless of rank, position, or duty assignment to do your part to protect that reputation. Eliminating sexual assault and sexual harassment requires a dedicated community effort. I challenge each leader and individual to accept this responsibility. Our Marines, Sailors, civilians, and family members deserve nothing less.

Our greatest weapon in the battle against sexual assault and sexual harassment has been and will continue to be decisive and engaged leadership that demonstrates compassion, character, competence, commitment, and teamwork. Leaders at every level are responsible to create an environment and command climate in which every Marine is treated with dignity and respect.

Sexual Assault Response: Any individual who witnesses or has knowledge of a sexual assault has both a moral and legal obligation to report these incidents to the chain of command and can do so without fear of reprisal. Under DoD's SAPR Policy, Service members and their adult military dependents have two reporting options: Restricted Reporting or Unrestricted Reporting. An unrestricted report will result in an investigation into the sexual assault and the chain of command will be notified. The victim can also request additional protective and support measures like Expedited Transfers or Military Protective Orders. A restricted report allows a victim to confidentially disclose the assault to a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), SAPR Victim Advocate (VA), or health care personnel so that they can receive medical treatment, mental health support, and SAPR services. Assistance and additional information are available through the Installation Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), Uniformed Victim Advocates (UVA), Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocates (SAPR VAs), command chaplain, healthcare personnel, and Marine & Family Programs personnel who stand ready to provide an array of support services to victims of sexual assault.

R. D. MICHAEL
COLONEL, U.S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING OFFICER, CAMP MUJUK, ROK