



# COMMANDING OFFICER'S POLICY STATEMENT ON HAZING



Hazing is defined as any conduct whereby one military member or civilian, regardless of rank or service, causes another military member or civilian, regardless of rank or service, to suffer or be exposed to an activity which is cruel, abusive, humiliating, oppressive, deameaning or harmful. Soliciting or coercing others to participate in this type of activity is also considered hazing. Hazing need not involve physical contact between members; it can be verbal or psychological in nature. Actual or implied consent to acts of hazing does not eliminate culpability of the perpetrator. While not all encompassing, acts of hazing include unauthorized "rites of passage" or "congratulatory acts"; physically striking another to inflict pain outside of a supervised training event; piercing another's skin in any manner (i.e. pinning); verbally berating an individual for the sole purpose of belittling or humiliating; the forced consumption of food, alcohol, drugs or any other substance; and requiring excessive physical exercise beyond what is required to meet standards. Irrespective of the form it takes, hazing is forbidden and those that perpetrate such acts will be held accountable.

Hazing is inconsistent with our institutional core values. It does irreparable damage to unit cohesion, degrades combat readiness, and destroys our professional image. I have no tolerance for any hazing among personnel aboard Camp Mujuk. All personnel will promote a command climate comprised of professionalism, unit cohesion, camaraderie, and teamwork. I expect all leaders and supervisors to familiarize themselves with Marine Corps Order 1700.28B, Hazing. No military member may engage in hazing or consent to acts of hazing being committed upon them. Consent to hazing is not a defense.

As your Commander, it is my responsibility to ensure the equality of treatment for all personnel and to ensure we will never take the dignity away from anyone. I will thoroughly review all reported cases where hazing is suspected or alleged, and if hazing has been proven to have occurred; I will hold those individuals accountable. Any violation, attempted violation or solicitation to violate the contents of Marine Corps Order 5354.1E will be subject to administrative or disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Our success in this fight depends on each member of this command contributing their part. To that end, it is the responsibility of each member of this command to address, correct, and report, without fear of reprisal, any instance of hazing. The following list provides several ways in which this can be accomplished.

- Notify your Chain of Command. If your immediate superiors are involved, request mast to myself.
- Call the Inspector General, MCIPAC-MCB BUTLER at 315-645-7346/3267.
- Call the Inspector General of the Marine Corps at 703-604-4526.
- Use the Hotline procedures found at the Inspector General link on [www.hqmc.usmc.mil](http://www.hqmc.usmc.mil).

Semper Fidelis,

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Commanding Officer  
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