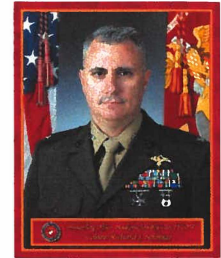




HEADQUARTERS BATTALION COMMANDING OFFICER'S POLICY STATEMENT ON SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE (SAPR)



25 July 2021

We will not tolerate sexual assault or sexual harassment in OUR formation.

I expect everyone to be engaged and focused on building a climate that allows our Marines, Sailors, and Civilians to thrive in defending the Nation.

Policy

Sexual assault is a crime that destroys the fabric of our Corps and our trust in one another. It degrades our warfighting capacity and our ability to be the most ready when the Nation is least ready.

Sexual assault is the intentional sexual contact characterized by the use of force, threat of force, or when the victim does not or cannot consent.

A sleeping, unconscious, or incompetent person cannot consent. Judgement impaired by alcohol is not a mitigating factor for offenders.

Prevention. We will take care of one another and uphold our commitment to one another and to the Nation.

I expect Leaders in all grades to:

- (1) Talk with their Marines, Sailors, and Civilians about respect, decency, and healthy relationships.
- (2) Ensure they are educated on sexual assault/harassment prevention, intervention, and responsible alcohol consumption.
- (3) Be present in the barracks and around the command.
- (4) Be professional at all times. There is ZERO TOLERANCE for “harmless” sexist jokes.

Marines on Duty. Take charge of your posts and intervene when you see Marines abusing alcohol or unlawfully entering another Marines' room.

Response. Marines who report being sexually assaulted are to be characterized as “victims” and treated accordingly. The veracity of the victim's report will not be judged for purposes of treatment and care; this will be determined through appropriate law enforcement investigation and the military justice process. Victims will be treated with dignity and impartiality. Victims may have confidential communications with Health Care Professionals, Chaplains and Victims Legal Counsel, but only Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARC) or SAPR Victim Advocates (SAPR VA) may receive a report of sexual assault. There are two reporting options:

- **Restricted:** Victims receive medical and other services while keeping their identity confidential and without notification to law enforcement or the command.
- **Unrestricted:** Victims' identity is not confidential and an investigation will be conducted. Marines who make an unrestricted report should feel confident that their personal safety will be protected and their identity will only be released to those with a need to know.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R.J. Schmidt'.

R.J. SCHMIDT
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer

DoD 24/7 Safe Helpline (877) 995-5247 or MCB Quantico 24/7 Sexual Assault Support Line (703) 432-9999