



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
3280 RUSSELL ROAD  
QUANTICO, VA 22134-5103

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
3900  
MRA  
JUN 7 2013

From: Assistant Deputy Commandant, Manpower and Reserve Affairs  
To: Distribution List

Subj: MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS POLICY FOR SUPPORTING INDEPENDENT  
EXTRAMURAL RESEARCH

Ref: (a) SECNAV Inst 3900.39D  
(b) MCO 3900.18

1. Independent extramural performers are researchers outside of a DoD activity who desire access to Marine Corps personnel as subjects. Per the references, extramural performers must get their research protocol approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) that has a federal wide assurance and a DoD addendum. Researchers must also complete research ethics and human subject protections training. Independent extramural research is subject to a Department of Navy Review by the Marine Corps' IRB Chair to ensure Marine subjects are receiving appropriate protections.

2. Many extramural studies involve research in the social sciences that include areas controlled and monitored by M&RA (e.g. behavioral health, substance abuse, wounded warriors, etc). The approval authority for independent extramural research using Marine Corps personnel as subjects is the first general officer/SES in the appropriate stake-holder chain of command within M&RA, or the appropriate HQMC department. This will ensure the Marine Corps' interests (legal, public relations, etc) and the interests of Marines and their family members are protected.

3. Please contact Dr. Jon Raelin, MPP-50, at 703-784-9367 if you have any questions.

  
S. E. MURRAY

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MCCDC IRB Chair