



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
2D MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE
PSC BOX 20012
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1 Aug 22

POLICY LETTER 1700-22

From: Commanding General

To: 2d Marine Expeditionary Brigade

Subj: COMMANDING GENERAL'S HAZING PREVENTION STATEMENT

Ref: (a) MCO 5354.1F

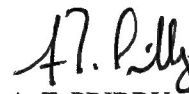
1. The Marine Corps and 2d Marine Expeditionary Brigade's (MEB) policy on hazing is clear and uncompromising: it is unlawful, prohibited, and will not be tolerated. It is prejudicial to the good order and discipline of our unit and compromises the special trust and confidence that exists between Marines, Sailors, and their leaders. It is the responsibility of every Marine and Sailor to ensure that hazing does not occur in any form at any level. Hazing will absolutely not be tolerated. There is never a reason to haze a Marine or a Sailor; it is never justified, and it will not be tolerated in this command.

2. Hazing is defined by Marine Corps Order 5354.1F as "A form of harassment that includes knowing, reckless, or intentional conduct through which Service members, without a proper military or other governmental purpose but with a nexus to military service, physically or psychologically injures or creates a risk of physical or psychological injury to a Service member or DOD civilian employee for the purpose of: initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, change in status or position within, or a condition for continued membership in any military or DOD civilian organization." Hazing can be conducted through the use of electronic devices or communications, and by other means including social media, as well as in person.

3. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any form of initiation or congratulatory act that involves physically striking another to inflict pain, piercing another's skin in any manner, verbally berating another, encouraging another to excessively consume alcohol, or encouraging another to engage in illegal, harmful, demeaning, or dangerous acts.

4. At no time will members of 2d MEB participate in, cover up, ignore, or direct hazing against another individual or group of individuals. All allegations of hazing will be reported through the command's Equal Opportunity Representative or the chain of command. During instances when reporting through these channels does not produce the desired results, Marines and Sailors may utilize Request Mast procedures. Any violation, attempted violation, or solicitation of another to violate this policy, may subject involved members to adverse administrative or disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

5. Any alleged incident of hazing must be reported to the 2d MEB Chief of Staff (COS), Sergeant Major, and Commanding General, immediately. The 2d MEB COS will coordinate command action with the advice and assistance of the 2d MEB Staff Judge Advocate (SJA). The 2d MEB SJA will coordinate with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). NCIS has primary investigative jurisdiction over alleged hazing incidents. As such, NCIS must decline investigative jurisdiction prior to the initiation of a command investigation.


A. T. PRIDDY

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