



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
2D MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE
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1 Aug 22

POLICY LETTER 1752-22

From: Commanding General

To: 2d Marine Expeditionary Brigade

Subj: COMMANDING GENERAL'S SEXUAL ASSAULT STATEMENT

Ref: (a) MCO 1752.5C

1. Sexual assault is a criminal act. Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact accomplished by the use of force, threat of force, or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Further, sexual assault is a betrayal of the standards of treatment of our fellow human beings. We will show no tolerance for sexual assault. This command will aggressively prosecute all allegations of sexual assault in accordance with the Uniform Code of Military Justice and other applicable rules and regulations.

2. Sexual assault can and has happened to both male and female Marines and Sailors. Should one of our own 2d Marine Expeditionary Brigade (2d MEB) Marines or Sailors become the victim of sexual assault, we encourage them to seek assistance. Our senior leaders, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, Victim Advocates, Military Police, and medical providers are here to assist. Members of this command who suspect or become aware of allegations of sexual assault shall not attempt to resolve or investigate the allegations; instead they shall promptly notify their chain of command so that proper action may be taken.

3. Sexual assault victims have at times been improperly considered responsible for their predicament and re-victimized by those in a position to assist. We will uphold our commitment by treating every victim with dignity, respect, and sensitivity. We will ensure our injured receive all medical, emotional, psychological, and social care and support possible. We will protect them through fair, conscientious, and unbiased treatment as individuals and continue to view them as integral service members of this command.

4. Prevention of sexual assault is critical to our command's moral foundation and esprit de corps. All 2d MEB leaders are charged to engage our Marines and Sailors on this subject and be involved in their activities. Ensure we uphold the highest standards of behavior and conduct expected whether on duty, liberty, or leave. Monitor our team's behavior, particularly when alcohol consumption and fatigue are prevalent. If we observe behavior degenerating from acceptable norms, it is our duty to immediately address the situation. Do not allow an enjoyable social function or "night out on the town" turn into a tragedy.

5. Mutual respect and trust are essential to unit cohesion and a work environment that fosters the personal and professional development of our Marines and Sailors. There are few acts as damaging as sexual assault is to the morale, effectiveness, and efficiency of a unit and its bond with the local community. 2d MEB Marines and Sailors are expected to take care of each other and our hosts. Treat all people, those within the military and the local community, with respect and dignity. The Marine Corps Values denote our responsibility to cultivate respectful climates and promote prevention-focused leadership; facilitating reporting options.

A.T. Priddy
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