



Commanding Officer's Policy on Sexual Assault



The history of the Marine Corps is filled with stories of individual and unit heroism. Collectively, we have the honor of carrying forward that tremendous legacy. Many of the heroic acts of our predecessors define the essence of what it means to be a Marine: when our fellow Marines or Sailors need our help we willingly accept personal risk to come to their aid.

Sexual assault – one Marine or Sailor taking physical advantage of someone when that person does not or cannot consent – is a stain on the proud history and tradition of the Corps and we will do everything in our power within 2d Battalion, 3d Marines to prevent its occurrence, support its victims, and hold its offenders and facilitators accountable.


It is important to realize that in the Marine Corps sexual assault with male victims does occur. Anyone in this Battalion who is the victim of sexual assault should immediately and directly contact our Uniformed Victim Advocates (UVA) to receive confidential advice on reporting and support options. The command will enforce restricted reporting procedures and will ensure the privacy of the victim, providing access to any support the victim needs.

With a focus on the prevention of sexual assault, leaders in 2d Battalion 3d Marines will:

- Create a climate free from messages and behavior that undermines the seriousness in which sexual assault is viewed; instead emphasizing that sexual assault is a crime that is inconsistent with our core values and directly undermines readiness, unit cohesion and morale.
- Emphasize that expressed consent is the critical dividing line between consensual sexual activity and criminal sexual assault, whether involving a service member or civilian.
- Foster a sense of responsibility to actively identify and intervene in situations in which one perceives that another may be victimized.
- Ensure a clear understanding that those who “facilitate” sexual assault as inactive bystanders will be held accountable for their actions or lack thereof.
- Address the role alcohol often plays in sexual assault and the responsibility all Marines have for their actions, regardless of whether they are intoxicated.

Eliminating sexual assault in the Marine Corps is a priority at all levels of the chain of command. We will accept nothing less than aggressive, proactive leadership to address this issue and achieve results. For assistance or more information contact the unit Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA) is 1stLt Seaman.


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