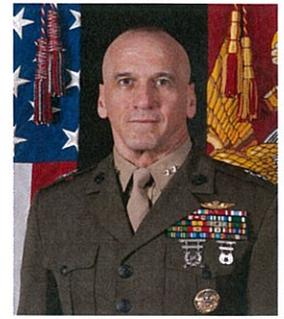




COMMANDING GENERAL'S POLICY STATEMENT ON SEXUAL ASSAULT



3d Marine Division stands ready to answer our Nations call at a moment's notice. This is due to the talented Marines and Sailors committed to our mission. There are however, some Marines and Sailors committing criminal acts of sexual assault, which tarnish our reputation. Sexual Assault is defined by the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) MCO 1752.5B as intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, threats, intimidation, or abuse of authority, when the victim does not or cannot consent. Every member within 3d Marine Division will intervene to combat and prevent sexual assault.

Every member will be fully committed to maintaining the highest individual and unit standards of conduct, morality and respect for human dignity. Bystanders failing to report or ignoring a potential sexual assault incident are equally responsible and their actions will have destructive consequences for both victims and their commands. Any member who condones or ignores sexual assault will be subject to appropriate legal and/or administrative action.

Alcohol use is frequently cited in sexual assault incidents. Irresponsible consumption of alcohol places Marines and Sailors at increased risk. It is imperative that Marines and Sailors care for each other and not allow fellow Marines and Sailors to be victimized due to intoxication. Make yourselves a hard target for would-be-predators. Consume alcohol responsibly and maintain control of your environment.

Leaders at all levels must be familiar with the contents of MCO 1752.5B. Commanders will ensure all members of their command are briefed on its contents and receive annual refresher training. Additionally, the "Commander's Protocol for Prevention and Response," found in appendix C, is the standard operating procedure for responding to allegations. Learn it and rehearse it, so you can be ready to act responsively when a report is made.

Victim safety is a priority. Victims who have the courage to make an unrestricted report must feel confident their privacy will be protected. Victims will be treated with privacy, decency, and respect. Victims will receive appropriate medical, psychological, and social services support. The identity of victims will only be released to those who have a clear need to know (the unit commander, Provost Marshals Office, and Navy Criminal Investigative Service). Victims who choose to make a restricted report will have that choice strictly honored.

Our 3d Marine Division family deserves nothing less than our complete commitment to eliminating sexual assault.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. L. Simcock II".

R. L. SIMCOCK II
MAJOR GENERAL, U.S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING GENERAL, 3D MARINE DIVISION