10 July 2020

## **COMMANDING OFFICER'S SUBSTANCE**

## **ABUSE POLICY**

Per MCO 5300.17, alcohol abuse and the distribution, possession, use, trafficking, or distribution of illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia is contrary to the effective performance of Marines and Sailors, the Marine Corps mission, and will not be tolerated.

Alcohol and drug offenses must and will be dealt with swiftly and effectively. The wrongful use possession, manufacture, distribution, or introduction onto a military installation, vessel, vehicle, or aircraft used by or under the control of the armed forces by any subject to this order, of a controlled substance analogue or a designer drug is prohibited.

Our substance abuse policy is proactive in nature and will focus on prevention. Educate your people. Provide healthy alternatives. Help them make good life decisions. Look for signs of abuse. Hold individuals accountable.

Even when our people have done wrong, we will support their recovery and make every attempt to make them whole again. We will provide referral services to those in need. The use of illegal drugs has an immediate detrimental effect on unit discipline and performance and all individuals that violate this order will be processed for administrative separation, but we will continue to support our personnel through referral services, transition assistance, and concerned leadership.

Leaders, ensure that you know your Marines and Sailors and prevent instances of substance abuse from occurring. Use of illicit drugs, misuse of prescribed pharmaceutical drugs, and excessive use of alcohol rob us of our strength. These habits take our Marines and Sailors from us and reduce our combat power.

RICHARD P. NEIKIRK Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps Commanding Officer

