COMMANDING OFFICER 1st Battalion, 3d Marine Regiment

HAZING POLICY STATEMENT

Hazing is one of the most reprehensible actions a Marine or Sailor can conduct. It directly violates our core values, destroys trust, and drastically reduces combat readiness. It damages <u>unit morale</u>, which is the most important trait of an effective and combat ready battalion.

Hazing is abuse. It is perpetrated by those in positions of trust and seniority who violate the trust of those that they are supposed to train and protect. It can take the form of immature and degrading actions all the way to vicious and violent assaults. Any credible accusation of hazing will be investigated. This command will hold accountable anyone found to have committed a substantiated incident of hazing.

There is a large difference between tough training and hazing. To be clear: I expect the leadership of this command to constantly push their Marines and Sailors to the limit during training to reflect the savagery of combat. I also expect this training to be standards-based, nested in established standards, and part of the larger company training plans. No training outside of the normal company battle rhythm timelines of 0630 - 1800 daily or on non-training day weekends will occur without the approval of that unit's company commander.

I have never observed a Marine infantry unit that thrived in violent combat attribute their battlefield success to hazing. Units with high <u>unit morale</u>, strong bonds of camaraderie, and high levels of toughness and resiliency possess leaders of character that inspire by their example, competence, proficiency, and kindness to their subordinates. I encourage all leaders to strive to be this type of leader and to protect those that trust them. Those that attempt to lead by fear and intimidation and resort to abusing their teammates will not be tolerated.

All personnel will familiarize themselves with Marine Corps Order 1700.28A (QR Code will provide access). The command's equal opportunity representative is Warrant Officer Mark Strempke and can be reached at (808)257-1835 or mark.strempke@usmc.mil.

A. R. SACCHETTI LTCOL, U.S. MARINE CORPS COMMANDING OFFICER