

1ST FORCE STORAGE BATTALION Sexual Assault and Prevention Policy Statement



Simply stated: **Sexual assault is a crime that is incompatible with our values and it will not be tolerated!** Sexual assault is counter to everything we stand for. To eliminate it from our ranks, I need the concerted effort of every Marine and Civilian in this command to execute aggressive prevention of sexual assault through active engagement, immediate intervention, and timely reporting.

<u>Mission</u>: Our mission is to prevent sexual assault by building a culture of prevention through education, training, and risk reduction. We will further strengthen this effort by establishing a command climate that supports victims and deters individuals from committing these crimes.

<u>Definitions</u>: Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, threats, intimidation, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault includes rape, sexual assault, aggravated sexual contact, abusive sexual contact, forcible sodomy (forced oral or anal sex), or attempts to commit these offenses. "Consent" is a freely given agreement to the conduct of an act by a competent person. Lack of verbal or physical resistance or submission resulting from the use of force, threat of force, or placing another person in fear does not constitute consent. A current or previous dating or social or sexual relationship by itself or the manner of dress of the person involved with the accused in the conduct at issue shall not constitute consent. A sleeping, unconscious, or incompetent person cannot consent. Sexual assault can happen to any age, rank, or gender

<u>Eligible for SAPR Program Services</u>: Every victim of sexual assault will be treated impartially, with dignity, and without prejudice. The Marine Corps SAPR program applies to all active duty and reserve component service members, and military dependents 18 years of age and older who are eligible for treatment in military healthcare systems, at installations in the continental United States (CONUS) and outside of the continental United States (OCONUS), and who were victims of sexual assault perpetrated by someone other than spouse or intimate partner. Victims are eligible to receive SAPR services whether the assault occurred prior to or during military service.

Reporting Options: There are two methods a victim can use to report Sexual Assault:

<u>Restricted reporting</u> means the victim makes a confidential report to the SAPR VA or Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) only. A Restricted Report allows Marines to receive medical treatment, advocacy services and counseling but does not trigger an official law enforcement investigation.

<u>Unrestricted reporting</u> allows Marines to receive command support, medical treatment, advocacy services, legal support and an official law enforcement investigation. Unrestricted Reports can be initiated with a SARC or SAPR VA or by contacting law enforcement authorities or command. The appropriated authorities are NCIS and PMO.

<u>MCO 1752.5C</u> provides the necessary guidance as it pertains to sexual assault in our Marine Corps and clearly defines the nature of the offense. I expect all Marines and Civilians to aggressively eradicate this plague from our Corps. Prevention of this crime will only happen through constant presence of leadership at all levels and personal integrity within each Marine and Civilian of 1st FSB.

Semper Fidelis,

M. S. HALL

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