

## COMMANDING OFFICER'S POLICY STATEMENT ON SEXUAL ASSAULT

**Sexual assault is a crime that will not be tolerated in this command.** It is prejudicial to good order and discipline, and against our Core Values as Marines. Everyone in the command will ensure they are familiar with and understand my policy on sexual assault prevention and response. Sexual assault is not restrict to any particular gender, race, or age. Anyone can be a victim of this terrible crime, military or civilian. Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual conduct, characterized by the use of force, physical threat of force, or abuse-of-authority. Sexual assault also occurs when the victim is unable to give their consent.



Sexual assault will not be tolerated! **Those who commit sexual assault will be held accountable for their actions according to the Uniformed Code of Military Justice.** Sexual assault is a complete contradiction to our core values of honor, courage, and commitment. Everyone in this command, regardless of rank, is a leader and plays a critical role in eliminating sexual assault. I look to all Marines and Sailors to dedicate themselves to do the right thing; treat your brothers and sisters honorably, have the courage to step in and stop sexual assaults before they happen, and commit yourselves to protecting one another just as you would to someone in harms way.

Victims of sexual assault will be treated with the utmost decency and respect and will be provided all appropriate care available. Victim safety is paramount and-under no circumstances will a victim be re- victimized in any way by any member of this command. The command's Uniform Victim Advocates (UVAs) are available to assist whenever necessary. Further, the UVAs and Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARC) of higher headquarters and the base are available to assist any member of this command at any time. Victims must feel confident that they will be treated with compassion, dignity, and discretion.

The installation SARC in Albany, our UVA aboard Blount Island, Fleet and Family Services, and the base Chaplains aboard NS Mayport and NAS Jacksonville stand ready to provide an array of support services to individuals who have been sexually assaulted. **Contact the 24/7 Sexual Assault Helpline (229)881-3883 or DoD's Safe Helpline at (877)995-5247.** This command will proactively utilize these resources to enhance training, provide support and assistance, and manage cases.

Sexual assault cannot be allowed to occur anywhere. It is a crime and thus I challenge each and every Marine and Sailor to work towards it's eradication. **DO NOT** allow your brother or sister Marine to become a victim of sexual assault. Take action and treat each other the way you would want to be treated

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.S. Sattely".

J.S. SATTELY  
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding Officer  
Blount Island Command  
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