



**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**  
I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE  
U. S. MARINE CORPS FORCES, PACIFIC  
BOX 555300  
CAMP PENDLETON, CA 92055-5300

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
1752  
SARC  
30 JUL 2014

POLICY LETTER 3-14

From: Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force  
To: Distribution list

Subj: SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE (SAPR)

Ref: (a) MCO 1752.5B

1. Situation. Sexual assault is a crime that is not restricted to any gender, race, or age. Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, physical threat of force or abuse of authority; or when the victim does not or cannot consent. The reference is the newly revised Marine Corps Order containing guidance for identifying, reporting, and addressing the issue of sexual assault.

2. Mission

a. Sexual assault will not be tolerated. Failure to report or ignoring sexual assault incidents may have damaging consequences for victims and their organizations. Where cause exists, appropriate legal and/or administrative action will be taken against violators.

b. Alcohol use is frequently cited in sexual assault incidents. Irresponsible consumption of alcohol places a Marine at increased risk. It is imperative that Marines take care of each other and not allow a fellow Marine to be victimized due to intoxication.

3. Execution

a. "The Commander's Protocol for Responding to Allegations of Sexual Assault," found at Appendix C of the reference is established as the standard operating procedure (SOP) within I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) for responding to allegations of sexual assault.

b. Commander's Intent

(1) Leaders at all levels will take immediate action to become familiar with the contents of the reference. Commanders will ensure that all members of their command are briefed on the contents of the reference and receive annual refresher training. Marine

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Corps Community Services (Marine and Family Programs), as well as the Installation Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), Command SARC and/or Uniform Victim Advocate (UVA), will be utilized to assist the command in fulfilling SAPR training responsibilities as well as provide assistance to victims.

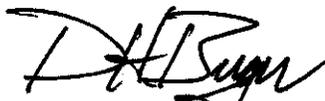
(2) Victims will be treated with sensitivity, decency and respect, and will receive appropriate medical, emotional, psychological, and social services. Care will be given to ensure the identity of a victim is released only to those who have a need to know (i.e. the unit commander, PMO, or NCIS). Victim safety is paramount at all times. Victims who choose to make a restricted report in accordance with the reference will have that choice honored to the fullest extent. Victims are encouraged to report and must feel confident their personal safety will be protected, and that they will be treated with sensitivity and care.

4. Administration and Logistics. The point of contact regarding this policy letter is the I MEF Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at (760) 725-3458.

5. Command and Signal

a. Command. Sexual assault is a contradiction to the core values we all embrace. Eliminating sexual assault will take a dedicated effort by all hands. I challenge each leader and every individual to actively strive to achieve this goal.

b. Signal. A copy of this policy letter shall be retained by all commands and incorporated into unit directives and orders.



D. H. BERGEN

Distribution: I, II