



I MEF SUPPORT BATTALION
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT



Our cohesiveness as an organization begins at entry level training and continues throughout a Marine's career. From the onset, we as Marines, are taught Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. These Core Values, are the foundation which enable the United States Marine Corps to be the nation's force in readiness. We stand ready as a result of this cohesiveness and have developed a lasting reputation around the globe as the premier fighting force that treats everyone with dignity and respect, especially our own.

No matter what your rank, each of you wears the cloth of our country. This signifies our closeness as a team. No matter your ethnicity, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation, we are one team. We must respect each other as individuals and seek opportunities to learn from each other.

Our Unit consists of representatives from our 50 States, U.S. territories, and even other partner nations. This incredibly rich diversity provides us a tremendous opportunity to understand the various cultures in America each one of you took an oath to defend. I challenge each of you to strengthen the bonds within our unit by sharing your own cultural experiences and learning about those who serve to your left and to your right. Get to know your team for you will never forget those you serve with.

While I expect every Marine and Sailor to strengthen our bonds as a team, there may be individuals who choose a wrong path by disrespecting another individual or group based on ethnicity, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation. This disrespect may come in the form of sexual harassment, verbal abuse, hazing, or discrimination. This disrespect is prohibited and will not be tolerated.

I ask that victims and witnesses of an equal opportunity offense, first attempt to use the individual resolution system to highlight and discuss the offense. Swift and tactful response is often effective to remedy the situation. When victims feel that resolution is not effective, feel uncomfortable confronting the offender, or feel the offense is too heinous for individual resolution, I encourage swift reporting via the chain of command or our unit's Equal Opportunity Representative.

We must trust each other in every clime and place. That trust must be built on dignity and respect toward each other. Be professional and do the right thing.

W. V. GORSUCH

LIEUTENANT COLONEL, USMC

COMMANDING OFFICER, I MSB