

## COMMANDING OFFICER'S ALCOHOL POLICY STATEMENT

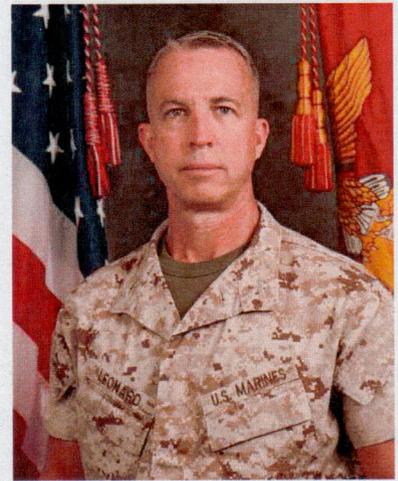
Alcohol abuse hurts our Marine Corps Family, undermines our core values, causes useless loss of life, and degrades our combat readiness. A Marine with a solid performance record and otherwise outstanding potential can have his/her career cut short due to a single incident due to lack of judgment. This type of behavior is unacceptable and we cannot allow this to occur in our organization.

To ensure we are ready to execute any mission, it will take intrusive leadership at all levels and the commitment of each and every Marine and Sailor to make this a reality. We as leaders, from the most junior Marine to the Commanding Officer, must ensure that we are advising and educating our Marines as to the potential ramifications of the misuse and abuse of alcohol. All alcohol related incidents will be dealt with swiftly and severely through appropriate legal and/or administrative processes.

I ask that Marines are not told "Do not drink," unless under the legal age of 21, but rather that they are asked to "Drink responsibly". Leaders must be attentive to the signs of alcohol abuse (i.e. DUI incidents, defiant behavior, poor attitude, legal and social problems, etc.). Additionally, I expect every Marine and Sailor to become involved and to take immediate action when they see a fellow unit member who has had too much to drink or may appear to have a drinking problem. Marines and Sailors take care of each other, even when it is the tough or unpopular thing to do.

We must not glamorize or promote alcohol at any Training Center function, rather, let's promote the fact that these functions are for the Marines to interact with their fellow Marines. Our Marines are an investment that must be safeguarded. One of the best deterrence from alcohol abuse is remaining active and constructively occupied. There are many opportunities for volunteer and recreational activities available aboard the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center (MCMWTC) and the local community. These events afford our Marines the opportunity to get out of the barracks and participate both on and off base. Remember, Marines are never off-duty or exempt from the rules that govern our behavior.

My point of contact for this policy and all substance abuse related programs and information is the MCMWTC Substance Abuse Control Officer, Gunnery Sergeant Marshall G. Cleveland, 760-932-1411, [marshall.cleveland@usmc.mil](mailto:marshall.cleveland@usmc.mil), who is available to any Marine and Sailor in this command.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S.D. Leonard".

S.D. LEONARD

Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding Officer  
Mountain Warfare Training Center