COMMANDING OFFICER'S
SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE POLICY

Sexual assault is a crime that is not unique to any gender, race, or age. Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, threats, intimidation, abuse of authority; or when the victim does not consent or cannot give consent.

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

Victims will be treated with sensitivity, decency and respect, and will receive appropriate medical, emotional, psychological, and social services. Care will be given to all who report an incident whether it be an Unrestricted Report or a Restricted Report. An Unrestricted Report ensures the identity of a victim is released only to those who have a need-to-know (i.e., the unit commander, PMO and NCIS). A Restricted Report allows the victim to report confidentially and receive help without an investigation or command involvement. Victim safety is paramount at all times. Victims who have the courage to report must feel confident their personal safety will be protected and they will not be re-victimized by the organization. Marines and Sailors who are sexually assaulted are physically, mentally, and emotionally traumatized. They deserve to be treated with sensitivity and care.

Alcohol use is frequently cited in sexual assault incidents. It is imperative Marines take care of each other and not allow a fellow Marine to be victimized due to intoxication.

Leaders at all levels will take immediate action to become familiar with MCO 1752.5B. All members of this command will be briefed on the contents of the reference and receive annual refresher training. Marine Corps Community Services (Marine and Family Programs), as well as the Installation Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), will be utilized to assist the command in fulfilling SAPR training responsibilities as well as providing assistance to victims.

Appendix C of MCO 1752.5B is the standard operating procedure within the MCMWTC for responding to allegations of sexual assault.

I require all members of this command to be part of the solution in eliminating sexual assault in our Corps. Respect and take care of each other. Our Marine family deserves nothing less than our complete dedication to this cause.

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