



COMMANDING GENERALS SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY STATEMENT

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.

Sexual assault will not be tolerated. Failure to report or ignore sexual assault incidents may have damaging consequences for victims and 1st Marine Division. Where cause exists, appropriate legal and/or administrative action will be taken against violators.

Victims of sexual assault will be treated with sensitivity, decency and respect. Victims will receive appropriate medical, emotional, psychological, and social services. Care will be given to victims that choose to report an assault as an **unrestricted report** to ensure that the identity of a victim of sexual assault is released only to those who have a need to know. Victims that choose to make a **restricted report** will have that choice honored, and they will receive the appropriate requested care. Victims who have the courage to report must feel confident that their personal safety will be protected and they will not be re-victimized by the organization.

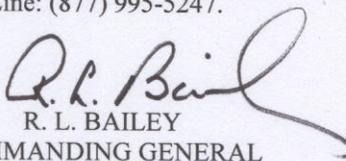
Division Marines and Leaders at all levels and ranks will take immediate action to become familiar with the contents of MCO 1752.5A, "Sexual Assault Prevention and Response". Commanders will appoint at a minimum two Uniformed Victim Advocates (UVAs), at each Battalion/Regiment. Ensure UVAs receive training and forward required UVA documentation to the 1st Marine Division Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC). Commanders will utilize UVAs to conduct required annual sexual assault training, pre-deployment sexual assault briefs and "Take A Stand" for NCOs. Commanders will post in common areas the Commander's policy letter on sexual assault awareness and prevention. Commanders will publish a command SOP on implementing the 'Commander's Protocol' for responding to allegations of sexual assaults.

I view each and every member of the 1st Marine Division team, as members of my family and will not tolerate an attack on anyone in my family. If someone harms a member of my team, my family, I will take it personally. Sexual assault is a complete and total contradiction to the core values that we hold so dear. Eliminating sexual assaults will take a dedicated team effort. In the case of a sexual assault -everyone loses --the victim loses and the perpetrator loses. Both of their lives are changed forever, and one will end up in jail. Two Marines will be out of the fight, a loss we cannot sustain in this time of war. What I need is for our Marines and sailors, regardless of rank, to step up and be good leaders and better friends. I challenge each leader and individual of 1st Marine Division to accept responsibility for achieving this goal.

To Prevent Sexual Assaults in my Division:

Ask! ...if friends need help,
Act! ...when they do,
Intervene! ...when you see trouble .

To report a Sexual Assault or to speak with a Victim Advocate, call the **24/7 Response Line**, MCB, Camp Pendleton: (760) 500-1707 or DoD Safe Help Line: (877) 995-5247.


R. L. BAILEY
COMMANDING GENERAL