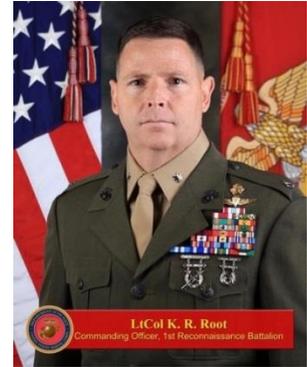


COMMANDING OFFICER'S POLICY ON HAZING

Hazing is contrary to our Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. Adherence to Core Values by our Marines and Sailors is central to 1st Reconnaissance Battalion's ability to meet its mission. "Through professional pride, integrity and teamwork, I shall be an example for all Marines to emulate." Like the Recon Creed, Honor, Courage, and Commitment are our guiding principles for treating every Marine and Sailor with dignity and respect, and as a valued member of the Navy and Marine Corps team.



Hazing degrades and diminishes the ability of victims to function within their unit. It destroys our members' confidence and trust in their teammates and is destructive to unit cohesion and combat readiness. Every member of 1st Reconnaissance Battalion must be afforded the opportunity to be a productive and contributing member free of hazing and its ill effects. Hazing is not part of our "time honored traditions" and it has no place in the modern Naval Services.

Hazing is defined as any conduct whereby a military member or members, regardless of Service or rank, without proper authority causes another military member or members, regardless of Service or rank, to suffer or be exposed to any activity which is cruel, abusive, humiliating, oppressive, demeaning, or harmful. Soliciting or coercing another to take part in any such activity is also considered hazing. Hazing need not involve physical contact among or between military members; it can be verbal or psychological in nature. Actual or implied consent to acts of hazing does not eliminate culpability of the perpetrator.

Hazing is prohibited and will not be tolerated. No service member in or attached to, 1st Reconnaissance Battalion shall engage in hazing or consent to acts of hazing being committed upon them. No commander or individuals in supervisory positions shall, by act, word, deed, or omission, condone or ignore hazing if they know or reasonably should have known that hazing occurred. It is every service members' responsibility to ensure that hazing does not occur in any form at any level. Every service member is responsible to make appropriate authorities aware of each violation of this policy. Reprisal actions against any victim(s) or witnesses of hazing incidents are strictly prohibited and will be subjected to the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

Any Violation, attempted violation, or solicitation of another to violate this policy, may subject involved members to adverse administrative or disciplinary action under Article 92 of the UCMJ.

If further assistance is required, the 1st Reconnaissance Battalion Equal Opportunity Representative can be reached at (760)763-5944.

K. R. ROOT