

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION
1ST MARINE DIVISION (REIN), FMF

COMMANDER'S POLICY STATEMENT ON
SUBSTANCE ABUSE



Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division consistently delivers tactical excellence because of our superb Marines and Sailors. A positive, professional environment, free from substance abuse, is essential to our continued success. There is zero tolerance for substance abuse in Headquarters Battalion, and I am committed to reducing this readiness detractor within our ranks.

Alcohol abuse and the use, distribution, or possession of illegal drugs is detrimental to good order and discipline; the Marine Corps does not tolerate it, and neither will our Standard Bearer team. Substance abuse creates a downward spiral, which ultimately degrades personal health, family welfare, job performance, and mission accomplishment on and off the battlefield. The costs of substance abuse can be measured physically, financially, and by the eventual erosion of mutual trust and unit cohesion within warfighting organizations. This command will deal with alcohol and drug offenses swiftly and firmly.

Marine Corps policies and directives governing substance abuse are not limited to commonly identified illegal drugs. Rather, any drug or substance not used for its intended purpose or used in excess can be classified as substance abuse. Additionally, any substance which is ingested with the explicit purpose of getting high is categorized as substance abuse. This may include, but is not limited to, aerosols, prescription medications, cold medication, and over-the-counter substances such as Spice.

Standard Bearers serve as models of discipline, both on and off duty. Illegal drugs and controlled substance abuse impair responsible and professional conduct. Alcohol abuse can be as dangerous as illegal drugs. Marines and Sailors of legal age who choose to drink must do so responsibly by applying moderation and maturity. Lapses in judgment while under the influence will not be tolerated. Additionally, we will continue an aggressive substance abuse program which will educate everyone on policies and programs and randomly screen all personnel for signs of substance abuse. In accordance with current policies, directives, and orders, our Standard Bearer team will not tolerate substance abuse; any confirmed illegal drug use will result in mandatory processing for administrative separation.

Substance abuse is a top readiness concern within our Corps, and it is everyone's problem. All members of the Standard Bearer team, from unit leaders to individual Marines and Sailors, will be alert for signs and symptoms of substance abuse within our ranks. As we train to go forward in our Nation's service, we must not allow substance abuse to dull our fighting spirit and combat readiness.

Semper Fidelis,


C. C. Readinger
Colonel USMC
Commanding Officer

BEAR THE STANDARD