

**COMMANDING OFFICER'S POLICY STATEMENT ON
HAZING**

Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division consistently delivers tactical excellence because of our outstanding Marines and Sailors. A positive, professional work environment, free from hazing, is essential to enable our continued mission success.



Hazing is defined as any conduct by a military member, regardless of Service or rank, that causes another military member, regardless of Service or rank, to suffer or be exposed to an activity which is cruel, abusive, humiliating, or oppressive. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any form of initiation or congratulatory act that involves physically striking another to inflict pain, piercing another's skin in any manner, verbally berating another, encouraging another to excessively consume alcohol, or encouraging another to engage in illegal, harmful, demeaning or dangerous acts. Soliciting or coercing another to participate 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.

Hazing is prohibited and will not be tolerated in Headquarters Battalion. No Marine or Sailor may engage in hazing or consent to acts of hazing being committed upon them. No one in a supervisory position may, by act, word, or omission, condone or ignore hazing if he or she knows or reasonably should have known that hazing may occur. The victim's consent to hazing is not a defense for violating this order. Such behavior, to include reprisal against any victim or witness, will not be tolerated. Setting conditions for the prevention of hazing is everyone's responsibility.

Violations of this policy may be subject to administrative or disciplinary action under the Uniformed Code of Military Justice. Any member of this battalion who witnesses a hazing incident or an attempt to conduct hazing will take appropriate action to stop the activity and immediately report it to the chain of command. Assistance is also available through the Battalion Equal Opportunity Representative, at (760) 725-8709.


C. C. GRIFFIN

STANDARD BEARERS: THE STANDARD IS EXCELLENCE