



11TH MARINE REGIMENT
1st Marine Division



**Commanding Officer's
Substance Abuse Policy Statement**

Alcohol abuse and the distribution, possession, use, or trafficking of illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia undermines the mental, physical, and moral strength and endurance of the Marines and Sailors of 11th Marines; degrades our ability to accomplish our mission; and will not be tolerated. Those individuals in violation will be subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) and processed for administrative separation.

Per MCO 5300.17A, the wrongful use, possession, manufacture, distribution, or introduction onto a military installation, vessel, vehicle, or aircraft used by or under the control of the armed forces by any person subject to that Order, of a controlled or prohibited substance, or misuse of prescribed or over-the-counter drugs or pharmaceutical compounds with the intent to induce intoxication, excitement, or stupefaction of their own central nervous system, or that of another, is prohibited. Any personnel attached to this Unit who is charged with such an offense may be subject to Non-Judicial Punishment, Court-Martial, an Adverse Fitness Report, or Administrative Separation.

Our substance abuse policy will be proactive in nature and focus on prevention. Prevention awareness and education will be the foundation of this Regiment's substance abuse program. The success of our program will be marked less so by our ability to identify abusers through our screening and testing process, and more so by influencing responsible decisions and behaviors by our Marines and Sailors up front. However, our substance abuse screening and testing will both serve as a means to "trust but verify" and comply with MCO 5300.17A.

The Command will refer all personnel involved in drug or alcohol related incidents to the Substance Abuse Control Officer (SACO) to be screened, counselled, and referred to the Substance Abuse Control Center (SACC). The SACO and SACC offer help to any Marines or Sailors who may be struggling with drug or alcohol related problems. These services are judgment-free and confidential. The SACC will assign Marines and sailors diagnosed as drug or alcohol dependent to an appropriate treatment program. Marines and Sailors who feel they may have a substance abuse problem should seek help from the SACO without risk of stigma or reprisal.

Every member of 11th Marines must make it a priority to understand, identify, and eradicate substance abuse within our ranks. It is a necessary prerequisite to be successful as men and women of honor, and ultimately accomplish our mission.

SEMPER FIDELIS,

P. F. ELDRIDGE
COMMANDING OFFICER