



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE CORPS BASE
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5001

MCBO 5300.2B
B 374/5
16 Aug 10

MARINE CORPS BASE ORDER 5300.2B

From: Commander
To: Distribution List

Subj: POLICIES REGARDING RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL

Ref: (a) MCO 1700.22F
(b) MCO P1700.24B
(c) MARADMIN 321/03
(d) MCO 1700.30
(e) MARADMIN 520/01

1. Purpose. To provide guidance and instruction to Marines aboard Marine Corps Base, Quantico (MCBQ) on the responsible consumption of alcoholic beverages, per the references.
2. Cancellation. MCBO 5300.2A
3. Summary of Revision. This revision contains a substantial number of changes and should be reviewed in its entirety.
4. Background. The consumption of alcohol is a socially accepted practice. However, when this activity results in irresponsible behavior, drinking excessively, or leads to alcoholism, the consequences are often tragic. Alcohol abuse may cause traffic accidents (possibly resulting in fatalities), disorderly conduct, family dysfunction, diminution of work performance, and a variety of serious health problems. The consumption of alcohol is glamorized by the millions of dollars spent annually on advertising. Information about alcohol abuse, by comparison, is minimal and Marines are sometimes influenced by these often compelling advertisements. This Order provides guidance and encourages the responsible use of alcohol.
5. Action
 - a. Unit Commanders
 - (1) Implement and regularly provide guidance to personnel in their units regarding Marine Corps policies on alcohol abuse and dependence, illicit substance use, and zero tolerance on such issues as drinking and driving, excessive consumption of alcohol, and public intoxication.

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(2) Commanders must ensure all Marines understand that consumption of alcohol is not essential to the development of unit and Marine Corps pride. Camaraderie can and should be developed through other more appropriate activities. All activities that encourage Marines to drink will be avoided; social functions where alcohol is the only beverage available are not authorized. Nonalcoholic beverages will be made available in equal proportion.

(3) This Order, when combined with the attitude that alcohol abuse constitutes unacceptable Marine behavior, is essential to the success of a prevention program.

(4) A proactive measure readily available to commanders is the control over local command policies with regard to club operations, social gatherings, and recreational activities of the command. Commanders must ensure that these operations or functions do not promote the consumption of alcoholic beverages. Advertisements and sponsorship of command activities or events will not glamorize alcohol.

(5) Commanders should institute policies, which support responsible consumption of alcohol in all aspects of club and community recreational activities. These include, but are not limited to ensuring that:

(a) Command sponsored activities, which allow alcoholic beverages as gifts or at reduced prices are not encouraged;

(b) Suitable nonalcoholic beverages are readily available at all social functions;

(c) Food is available whenever alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, or distilled spirits) are served;

(d) Drinking contests and other alcohol related games are not allowed;

(e) Alcoholic beverages are not offered as a prize;

(f) Alcoholic beverages are not sold or served to Marines who fail to meet foreign country or state minimum age requirements for purchase or consumption of alcohol;

(g) All commanders shall establish on-going programs to prevent drunk driving by Marines, their family members, and civilian employees. These programs can easily be linked to

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automobile and motorcycle safety programs and should be a major part of the commands' proactive phase programs.

(h) Provide non-alcoholic beverages at all command activities.

(6) Vigorously encourage peer protection programs for Marines going on liberty including designation of nondrinking driver, and utilization of both the senior Marine present and buddy system to provide advice and take appropriate action if an individual's drinking appears excessive. Provide training and education on what is considered excessive and abusive.

(7) Identify personnel who have problems with alcohol, and refer the individuals to the Consolidated Substance Abuse Counseling Center (CSACC). Counseling on alcohol problems are to be conducted solely by those designated in reference (b).

(8) Encourage self-referral of those who think they may have a problem to CSACC.

(9) Provide a presentation to unit personnel concerning responsible alcohol consumption prior to special events such as mess nights, wetting downs, birthday balls, picnics and field days. Included in this presentation should be an "arrive alive" theme and means to do so.

(10) Maintain an awareness of alcohol abuse in the unit and discourage the glamorization of alcohol use as well as the attitude that being able to "hold one's liquor" is an admirable accomplishment.

(11) Require Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) to receive drug and alcohol abuse prevention training through a CMC (MRO) approved course, designated "BASIC." It is designed to train small unit leaders (squad and section) to increase the decision-making skills of their Marines regarding alcohol use. Training modules are designed to produce positive behavioral change, not simply provide information.

b. Director, Marine Corps Community Services Division

(1) Limit reduced price periods (i.e. First Friday or Happy Hour) to no more than 2 hours per day. Prices will not be reduced more than 25 percent. When prices of alcoholic beverages are reduced, prices of nonalcoholic beverages will also be reduced. Offering complimentary food during happy hour

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enhances the event and may serve to make beverage price reductions unnecessary, as noted in reference (d).

(2) Promote the sale of nonalcoholic beer and drinks only to those patrons authorized to purchase alcoholic beverages.

(3) Restrict advertisement of alcoholic beverages (within legal parameters).

(4) Develop and promote single Marine programs not involving alcohol consumption.

(5) Adopt mandatory identification checks for all individuals purchasing alcoholic and nonalcoholic beer and drinks.

(6) Provide classes to bartenders on how to recognize symptoms of alcohol abuse and how and when to set limits on drinks served.

(7) Educate servers on their responsibility and liability regarding the serving of alcohol to minors, i.e., a server may be held liable if they served alcohol to a minor or if a person they served commits a crime.

(8) Provide CSACC information at Welcome Aboard briefs.

(9) Develop posters for distribution to all units outlying the problems of alcohol abuse and suggest alternative activities to alcohol consumption.

(10) Ensure CSACC coordinates with commands to develop education programs for unit officers and senior staff noncommissioned officers which will enable them to educate assigned personnel on responsible alcohol consumption, the multifaceted dangers of abuse, and counseling techniques for individual(s) who have a problem with abuse.

c. Public Affairs Office. Publish articles in the Quantico Sentry on the adverse effects of alcohol abuse on a regular basis (at least quarterly).

/s/

D. J. CHOIKE

DISTRIBUTION: A