



**MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO
SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
POLICY STATEMENT**



Sexual assault undermines the special trust and confidence that exists between Marines, Sailors, Civilians and family members. It creates a toxic and ineffective environment that tears away from the foundation of discipline, morale, and mission accomplishment. Sexual assault is a serious crime that can deteriorate anyone's mental and physical health. It is prejudicial to good order and discipline and can occur without regard to gender, spousal relationship, or age. Sexual assault is defined in MCO 1752.5C as intentional sexual contact characterized by use of force, threats, intimidation, or abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent.

Consent is defined as a freely given agreement to the conduct by a competent person. An expression of lack of consent through words or conduct means there is no consent. Lack of verbal or physical resistance or submission resulting from the use of force, threat of force, or placing another person in fear does not constitute consent. A current or previous dating or social or sexual relationship by itself or the manner of dress of the person involved with the accused in the conduct at issue does not constitute consent. A sleeping, unconscious, or incompetent person cannot consent.

I want everyone to know that all unrestricted reports of sexual assault will be thoroughly investigated and where cause exists, appropriate legal or administrative action will be taken against alleged perpetrators. Victims will be treated with sensitivity, decency, and respect. Victims will also receive appropriate medical, emotional, and psychological treatment with assistance from support services. Care will be given to ensure the identity of a victim is released only to those who have an absolute need-to-know. Victim safety and rights are paramount at all times. Those who report sexual assault incidents must feel confident that their personal safety will be protected and they will not be re-victimized by the organization. Victims who are sexually assaulted may be physically, mentally, and/or emotionally traumatized. They deserve to be treated with sensitivity and care. Reporting an incident of sexual assault may be initiated via the following methods:

A Restricted Report allows the victim to receive medical, informational, advocacy, and emotion/psychological counseling support services without notification of law enforcement or the command. A Restricted Report can be made to a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocate (SAPR VA), Healthcare Provider (HCP), DoD Safe Helpline 24/7 (877) 995-5247, or the MCINCR-MCB Quantico 24/7 Sexual Assault Support Line (703) 432-9999. *In a Restricted Report, the victim's identity remains confidential, and it is not forwarded to law enforcement or the command.*

An Unrestricted Report also allows a victim to receive medical, informational, advocacy, and emotional/psychological counseling services and an official investigation ensues. An Unrestricted Report can be made to law enforcement authorities or the command, as well as to a SARC, SAPR VA, HCP, DoD Safe Helpline, or the MCINCR-MCB Quantico 24/7 Sexual Assault Support Line (703) 432-9999. *Although the victim's identity will not remain confidential, care will be given to ensure that information is released only to those with a need-to-know (e.g. unit commander and investigating authorities).*

Sexual assault can happen to anyone. As a family, we take care of each other and work together to create a healthy and safe environment. Commanders are responsible for maintaining a climate that promotes respect, dignity, and trust, while simultaneously holding those accountable for their actions. However, I will hold every leader responsible to work aggressively in order to maintain a safe environment on this installation that promotes mutual respect. Leadership is the key to sexual assault prevention and response.

For additional assistance or information, please contact the MCINCR-MCB Quantico Installation SARC and SAPR Office at (703) 784-3557, or your Command's SARC and SAPR VA whose pictures and information can be found on posters throughout your command.

Semper Fidelis,

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