

## COMMANDING OFFICER'S POLICY ON SEXUAL ASSAULT

"Sexual assault is a crime that is completely incompatible with our core values of honor, courage, and commitment. It is an affront to the basic American principles we so bravely defend. Sexual assault goes against everything we claim to be as Marines."

-MCO 1752.5C, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program

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. As used in this Order, the term includes a broad category of sexual offenses consisting of the following specific UCMJ offenses: rape, sexual assault, aggravated sexual contact, abusive sexual contact, forcible sodomy (forced oral or anal sex), or attempts to commit these offenses.



Preventing this crime will be a constant focus within our Battalion, and we will work aggressively to maintain a work environment that promotes mutual respect. Victims of sexual assault will be treated with decency and respect, and will receive appropriate medical, emotional, and psychological support. A victim of sexual assault must feel confident that their personal safety will be protected and they will not be re-victimized by the organization upon reporting.

The Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocate (SAPR VA) stand ready to provide intervention support and support services to victims of sexual assault. The Marine Corps Base (MCB) Quantico SARC, Cherrone Hester, can be reached at 703-784-3557. Security Battalion UVAs are: Sergeant Andrea N. Villacis at 703-784-2731 and Sergeant Marshad D. Ledbetter at 703-432-0331.

To confidentially reach a MCB Quantico Victim Advocate, call the 24/7 Sexual Assault Support Line at 703-432-9999. Additionally, the Department of Defense Safe Helpline is anonymous, secure, and available 24/7 worldwide via phone (1-877-995-5247), or online at [www.safehelpline.org](http://www.safehelpline.org).

Sexual assault undermines the special trust and confidence that exists between Marines and creates a toxic environment that will have lasting negative effects upon morale and mission accomplishment. Leadership is the key to sexual assault awareness, prevention, and response. I charge every Marine and Civilian to remain alert for indicators of a potential sexual assault, and to take action before irreparable damage occurs to our Battalion and Corps.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. L. Roach".

J. L. ROACH  
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding Officer  
Security Battalion