



7th Engineer Support Battalion
COMMANDING OFFICER'S
Statement 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 bravely defend. Sexual assault goes against everything we claim to be as Marines."

- MCO 1752.5C

Sexual assault is defined in MCO 1752.5C as intentional 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 UCMJ offenses: rape, sexual assault, aggravated sexual contact, abusive sexual contact, forcible sodomy (forced oral or anal sex), or attempt 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 mental health 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 two Reporting Options restricted and unrestricted. Restricted reporting affords victims of sexual assault the option to make a confidential report to specified individuals such as SAPR VA and SARC. Unrestricted reporting includes all suspected, alleged, or actual sexual assaults made to the command or law enforcement officials for formal investigation.

To confidentially reach an advocate aboard Camp Pendleton, call the 24/7 Helpline at 760-500-1707. Additionally, the DoD Safe Helpline is anonymous, secure, and available 24/7 worldwide via phone (1-877-995-5247) or online at www.safehelpline.org. The Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocates (SAPR VA) stand ready to provide intervention support and support services to victims of sexual assault.

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 all Marines and Sailors to remain alert for indicators of a potential sexual assault, and to action before irreparable damage occurs to our Battalion and Corps. We represent the Marine Corps and 7th ESB in everything we do.

E. A. Day

Lieutenant Colonel, USMC

Commanding

