



COMMANDING OFFICER 1ST SUPPLY BATTALION
STATEMENT ON

Sexual Assault Prevention Policy



Marines and Sailors,

Every Marine and Sailor, regardless of rank, deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. Our warfighting readiness depends on the establishment of trust and confidence among all members of the battalion. Any type of discriminatory or degrading activity has an immediate and negative impact on individual and unit discipline, morale, and readiness and must be addressed immediately.

Sexual assault is defined as any intentional sexual contact through the use of force, physical threat, or abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Any form of sexual assault is reprehensible and will not be tolerated.

I highly encourage any victim of sexual assault to seek assistance. I will take every measure to safeguard the privacy and welfare of the victim while ensuring that justice is served for any individual that breaks faith with our core values.

To alleviate the barriers normally associated with victims of sexual assault (fear, embarrassment, shame) victims may notify the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), a Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), or the Battalion Chaplain with the promise of confidentiality.

I also charge leaders at every level to become familiar with the contents of MCO 1752.5C (Sexual Assault Prevention and Response). To reinforce this material, Company Commanders and Section Leaders will periodically address their Marines and Sailors on the contents of the Order and ensure that everyone is aware of who the battalion's UVAs are. All of us will receive annual refresher training from one of the command's UVAs or the SARC. 1st Supply Battalion utilizes 1st MLG's SARC, Ms. Monica Federico.

Sexual assault undermines the special trust and confidence that exists between members of 1st Supply Battalion; it takes a destructive personal toll on the individuals involved and creates a toxic environment that will have lasting negative effects on our most precious assets – our Marines and Sailors – and on mission accomplishment and morale. All Marines and Sailors are obligated to remain alert for indicators of a potential sexual assault and to intervene before these acts cause irreparable damage to our Marines, Sailors, and our Corps.

24/7 Support Line- Camp Pendleton

(760) 500-1707

DOD Safe Helpline

(877) 995-5247

Semper Fidelis,

S. H. NIEWENHOUS IV

Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps

Commanding Officer, 1st Supply Battalion