



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
2D MARINE AIRCRAFT WING
II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
POSTAL SERVICE CENTER BOX 8050
CHERRY POINT, NC 28533-0050

1700
SJA
SEP 03 2008

Policy Letter 08-08

From: Commanding General, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing
To: All Commanding Officers, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing

Subj: HAZING

Ref: (a) MCO 1700.28
(b) JAGMAN
(c) SECNAVINST 1610.2A
(d) OPNAVINST 3100.6H (NOTAL)
(e) II MEF Policy Letter 09-06 (Hazing Policy, Education and Prevention)

1. Situation. To provide guidance on the Commanding General's policy regarding hazing within the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing (2d MAW) in accordance with references (a) through (e).

2. Cancellation. Policy Letter 01-06.

3. Mission. Experience shows that hazing can happen in any unit, and the keys to prevention are training, leadership, supervision, and accountability. Hazing is often justified as an effort to build teamwork, morale and esprit de corps, but in fact it is little more than abusive, degrading treatment. Rather than enhancing morale in the unit, it has the complete opposite effect. Over the years extreme hazing cases have resulted in Marines suffering serious injuries and even death, and many careers have been destroyed.

4. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent. Ensure that you and your leadership are familiar with the references and continue to take aggressive action to prevent hazing, and respond appropriately when it occurs. Review your unit's traditions and ceremonies to determine if they require modification or discontinuation. Hazing is not just an issue for young Marines. Officers and

Subj: HAZING

Staff Noncommissioned Officers must set the example, follow the same rules, and must be held to a higher standard. You must ensure all Marines under your command are trained regularly and familiar with reference (a), to ensure there are no questions about the Marine Corps' zero tolerance policy on hazing. This training will also be included in every unit's return and reunion briefs, within 45 days of return from deployment. If your Marines have any questions about what is and is not authorized, you as the Commander will provide clear, unambiguous guidance, followed by appropriate command supervision.

(2) Concept of Operations. I charge each of you with fostering open communication so Marines feel safe in reporting hazing whenever it occurs. You must remain vigilant for indicators of hazing and take immediate action to investigate any allegations that arise.

(a) All allegations of hazing, both substantiated and unsubstantiated, must be immediately reported to me, via the Wing Inspector General and Wing Staff Judge Advocate (SJA), using the most expeditious means possible.

(b) Any allegations of hazing will be the subject of, at a minimum, a written Preliminary Inquiry conducted pursuant to reference (b). A copy of the investigation will be forwarded via the 2d MAW SJA to the 2d MAW Inspector, along with recommended action in substantiated cases.

5. Administration and Logistics. After coordination with the Chief of Staff, 2d MAW, ensure compliance with Paragraph 9 of reference (c) and Chapter 4, Appendix A of reference (d) by forwarding an Operational Report-3 Serious Incident Report to the Commandant of the Marine Corps in all substantiated cases. Hazing can and must be eliminated using the fundamental tenants of Marine Corps leadership, starting with treating all Marines with fairness, dignity and respect.

6. Command and Signal

a. Command. This Policy Letter is applicable to all 2d MAW Commanding Officers.

b. Signal. This Policy Letter is effective on the date signed.



ROBERT S. WALSH