



## MWHS-2 Sexual Assault Policy

**Sexual assault is a crime. It is a crime that is not unique to any gender, race or age. Sexual assault will not be tolerated.**

Sexual assault has lasting impacts on the victim, the victim's family, the unit, and on the reputation of the Marine Corps. It completely severs the cords of trust that ties service members to each other – it degrades our readiness. Perpetrators of sexual assault can expect to be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the UCMJ. I expect each and every member of this command to look out for one another and treat each other with respect at all times. I expect each of you to recognize and prevent the conditions that can lead to a sexual assault. **I expect each of you to have the moral and physical courage to intervene if you see it starting, or happening.**

**Victims will be treated with sensitivity, decency and respect** and receive all appropriate medical, emotional, psychological and social services. **The victim's identity will be carefully protected.** Victims who choose to make a restricted report will have that choice honored to the fullest. Victims who report will have their personal safety protected such that they do not become re-victimized. Marines and Sailors who are sexually assaulted are physically, mentally and emotionally traumatized – they will be treated with sensitivity and care.

Leaders at all levels will take immediate action to become familiar with the applicable Marine Corps orders. **Small unit leaders will verify that new members to the command have completed their check-in process to include their in-brief with the MWHS-2 Uniformed Victim Advocates (UVAs).** The command will provide annual refresher training – small unit leaders will ensure that members participate in this training.

If you are a victim of sexual assault, the leadership of this command and Marine Corps will support you in every way possible. You are encouraged to use every resource available to include the UVAs, the MCAS Cherry Point 24/7 Sexual Assault Helpline (252-665-4713), your chaplains, Victim Legal Counsel, the 2DMAW Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), and the DoD Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247.

*Gregory P DeMarco*

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