



26TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT COMMANDING OFFICER POLICY STATEMENT



SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

INTENT: The 26 MEU Team will maintain an environment where the value of the individual is cherished and protected and where sexual assault and the conditions that lead to it are eradicated. All members of 26 MEU will actively scan our on- and off-duty environments to recognize improper behavior and conditions that lead to sexual assault. Every Marine and Sailor will be prepared to demonstrate the moral courage necessary and intervene to prevent any incidents of sexual assault or other inappropriate sexual misconduct from occurring.

Sexual assault is a crime, and I will hold offenders accountable. Sexual assault can occur regardless of gender, spousal relationship, or age of the victim. I, and those in this command, will treat victims of sexual assault with compassion; provide them the support they require regardless of the circumstances of the assault; and ensure they are not subjected to reprisal or retaliation for reporting a sexual assault.

There are two reporting options for victims of sexual assault:

Restricted Report: This reporting option allows victims to confidentially disclose the crime to a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), SAPR Victim Advocate (VA), healthcare personnel, counselor, Victim's Legal Counsel, or chaplain so they can receive medical treatment and SAPR services. If a victim files a Restricted Report, their chain-of-command will not be notified and the report and any details provided will not be reported to the Provost Marshall Office or Naval Criminal Investigative Service for initiation of any official investigation of the crime. If a victim wants to pursue criminal charges, they must file an Unrestricted Report.

Unrestricted Report: This reporting option is for victims of sexual assault who desire an official investigation of the crime. Service members who are sexually assaulted and want to make an Unrestricted Report may report the assault to a SARC, SAPR VA, healthcare personnel, a member of your chain-of-command, law enforcement, legal personnel, or a chaplain.

If you are a victim of sexual assault, contact a SAPR Victim Advocate (VA) or the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC). You can also contact the DoD Safe Helpline at www.selfhelpline.org, the 24/7 toll free 877-995-5247 or text 55-247 for immediate assistance.


J. B. REID
COMMANDING OFFICER


C. R. TAYLOR
SERGEANT MAJOR