



3d Landing Support Battalion

SAPR Policy Statement

2 August 2022

Landers,

I want to ensure that everyone on the 3d Landing Support Battalion team understands that sexual assault is a **CRIME**. **Allegations of sexual assault will be taken very seriously, investigated to the fullest extent possible, and convicted offenders will be held accountable for their actions.**

Sexual harassment is unwelcomed sexual advances, request for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature in the work environment. Marine Corps policy on sexual harassment is governed by MCO 5354.1F (Prohibited Activities and Conduct Prevention and Response Policy).

Sexual assault is intentional sexual contact characterized by the use of force, threats, intimidation or abuse of authority. This includes UCMJ offenses such as rape, forcible sodomy, aggravated sexual contact, abusive sexual contact, or attempts to commit these.

Sexual assault includes situations where the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault occurs without regard to gender, age, race, rank or spousal relationships. I expect every Marine and Sailor to protect each other—as we do with other kinds of threats—by working together to stop these heinous acts before they occur. When they do happen, I expect all hands to take appropriate action via the chain of command to report this **CRIME** and support the victim.

There is no stigma or repercussion for being the victim of sexual assault. You have inherent value as an individual and will be afforded the respect, dignity, access to resources and support you deserve. Do not be intimidated by the criminals who perpetrate such acts. Have the courage to speak up and get help.

When one of our teammates is the victim of sexual assault, we must all pull together to protect the victim, respect his or her privacy and dignity, and support the victim through this traumatic event and its long-term consequences. Acts of sexual assault or sexual harassment have a negative impact on unit moral, cohesion, readiness and trust within the organization.

If you have any questions or need any assistance, do not hesitate to contact your chain of command, your Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocate (SAPR VA), a Chaplain, or health care professional.

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. A. Hooker'.

J. A. HOOKER

Lieutenant Colonel, United States Marine Corps
Commanding Officer, 3d Landing Support Battalion