



**FLEET MARINE FORCE ATLANTIC, UNITED STATES
MARINE CORPS FORCES COMMAND
SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
POLICY STATEMENT**

We all have earned our Eagle, Globe and Anchor and are proud to be U.S. Marines. And, our Sailors and Civilians who serve with us are justifiably proud to be at our side. It is a bond that joins us all. That bond is irreparably damaged by sexual assault and its aftermath. Trust, respect, commitment and devotion to each other to cement that bond cannot thrive in an environment where sexual assault is allowed to exist.

The crime of sexual assault is corrosive to all that makes us United States Marines. We would eradicate any enemy inside our fighting position in combat. Sexual assault is the enemy within our perimeter. We must not relinquish our solemn responsibility as leaders to "take care of our own." As long as sexual assault is present in our Corps, every Marine has the responsibility to step up and take a stand. Strong, face-to-face leadership is required to rid our Corps of this scourge. We must act every day to defeat it.

All FMFLANT and MARFORCOM Marines, Sailors, and civilians must understand the orders and policies that govern sexual assault prevention and response. Refer to MCO 1752.5c (Ch 3) for the requirements, tools and knowledge needed to beat sexual assault in our ranks. Victim support and safety comes first. Know the difference between restricted and unrestricted reporting and respect victim choice. Know each key member of the command's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program and their role within it. If you are a victim of sexual assault, FMFLANT and MARFORCOM will treat you with sensitivity, fairness, dignity and respect. For more information, contact the Naval Support Activity (NSA) Hampton Roads 24/7 Sexual Assault Support Line, 757-402-2569 or your unit SAPR Victim Advocates (VA).

Join me in eliminating sexual assault in this command and our Corps! For additional information, contact the FMFLANT/MARFORCOM SARC at 757-836-2070 or visit the Department of Defense (DOD) SAFE Helpline, 877-995-5247, <https://safehelpline.org>.

Remain Semper Fidelis!

R. F. HEDELUND
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Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Atlantic
Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command