COMMANDER, MARINE CORPS INSTATLLATIONS COMMAND POLICY STATEMENT ON HAZING

Maltreatment in any form is in direct violation of Marine Corps policy. Hazing is a form of maltreatment and **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**. No service member or civilian personnel attached to Marine Corps Installations Command will engage in any form of hazing, whether explicit or implicit, or consent to acts of hazing being committed upon them. Hazing is a leadership issue. No one in a supervisory position may, by act, word or omission, condone or ignore hazing if he or she knows or reasonably should have known that hazing may have occurred.

Hazing is defined as any conduct whereby one military member or civilian, regardless of Service or rank, causes another military member or civilian, regardless of Service or rank, to suffer or be exposed to any activity which is cruel, abusive, humiliating, oppressive, demeaning or harmful. Hazing includes, but is not limited to: any form of initiation or congratulatory act that involves physically striking another to inflict pain; piercing another's skin in any manner; verbally berating another; encouraging another to excessively consume alcohol; or encouraging another to engage in illegal, harmful or demeaning acts. Soliciting or coercing another to participate in any such activity is also considered hazing. Hazing need not involve physical contact among or between military service members; it can be verbal or psychological in nature.

Leaders at all levels are responsible for creating an environment of mutual respect and for fostering a climate conducive to the reporting of hazing incidents. Additionally, anyone who experiences or witnesses hazing has a duty to report such acts promptly through their chain of command. All leaders will be familiar with MCO 1700.28B, which contains additional information concerning Marine Corps policy on this important issue. **HAZING IS PROHIBITED** and those found in violation will be held accountable.

Commanders will provide Marines, Sailors and civilians with a work environment that is free from hazing and ensure that training is provided on a continuous basis at all levels to ensure that all personnel understand what hazing is, what it is not, and the proper procedure for reporting hazing incidents.

Semper Fidelis,

C. L. Hudson

C. L. HUDSON
Major General, U. S. Marine Corps
Commander, Marine Corps Installations Command