



## Marine Wing Communications Squadron 38

### Commanding Officer's Policy Statement on

# Substance Misuse



MCO 5300.17A defines substance misuse as the use of any substance, including alcohol, in a manner that puts the user at risk of failing in their responsibilities to mission or family, or that is considered unlawful by regulation, policy, or law. Alcohol is a controlled substance and alcoholism is a disease. As a warfighting organization which provides Ready Forces, we will use this program to focus on force protection and readiness. With that understanding, this program shall be employed via the following:

- Prevention
- Deterrence
- Identification
- Early intervention

I will do everything within my authority to support Marines and their family members who are dealing with substance misuse. If detected through our alcohol screening or drug testing program, documentation and referral to treatment is mandatory. If Marines self-identify alcohol misuse, documentation is not mandatory and treatment is afforded. I am asking all victims of alcoholism and drug misuse to self-identify and seek treatment. That is my focus get Marines treatment in order to provide a Ready Force. I am asking for those who are fighting with substance misuse to display an intense amount of moral and physical courage to seek treatment. I want to and will support you throughout your healing process.

Please understand that illegal drug use has a mandatory requirement to process for administrative separation. Everyone who is processed for ADSEP is not separated. Your contribution to our Corps shall be weighed appropriately.

If you have any questions, please discuss with medical personnel or our SACO (858)-307-8779.

Lieutenant Colonel Nelson  
Commanding Officer