



Marine Air Control Group 38 Commander's Sexual Assault Response Statement



Sexual assault is a crime that is completely incompatible with our core values, the **G.U.A.R.D.I.A.N.S.** philosophy, and it goes against everything we stand for as Marines and Sailors. I will not tolerate sexual assault in Marine Air Control Group 38 (MACG-38). We will prevent and eliminate the occurrence of sexual assault by strengthening a culture of prevention through risk reduction, education and training, response capabilities, victim support, reporting procedures, and offender accountability, as appropriate, enhancing the safety and well-being of every Marine and Sailor in MACG-38.

We will eliminate unprofessional behavior within MACG-38 that wrongly sets conditions and enables sexual assault. Furthermore, I will ensure due process for offenders, provide appropriate and sensitive care for victims, and develop programs that reduce the negative effect sexual assault has on the readiness of our command. It is every member of this command's inherent duty to step up and step in to prevent sexual assault.

Victims must know that their safety and privacy will be protected. Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocates (SAPR VA) and Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARC) are ALWAYS available to assist. Victims have two reporting options:

1. A **restricted report** allows victims to confidentially disclose the assault to specified individuals (i.e., SARC, SAPR VA, or healthcare personnel), receive medical treatment, counseling, and assignment of a SARC and SAPR VA. With a restricted report, there will not be an official investigation of the crime or additional protective measures like military protective orders (MPOs), or requests for an Expedited Transfer (ET). A restricted report can become an unrestricted report.

2. An **unrestricted report** also affords a victim the ability to receive medical, informational, legal, advocacy, and emotional/psychological counseling support services; however, an official investigation will be initiated. An unrestricted report can be made to law enforcement authorities or the command, as well as to the SAPR VA, SARC, HCP, Chaplain, DoD Safe Helpline, and sexual assault helplines. Although the victim's identity will not remain confidential, care will be given to ensure that information is released only to those with an actual need-to-know, such as the unit commander and the investigating authorities.

Only SARCs and SAPR VAs are authorized to take an unrestricted and restricted report. HCP at MTF and Chaplains may receive disclosures of sexual assault but are not authorized to take reports. A victim can file a restricted report **EVEN** if the allegation has been inadvertently or previously disclosed to the command or personnel in the chain of command by the victim, a suspect, or a third party, the matter has been reported to law enforcement by anyone other than the victim, and/or if an investigation has been initiated. These updates are referred to as "expanded eligibility to file restricted reports" and all members of MACG-38 are instructed to remain abreast of this and any future policy updates which will be disseminated by our Command SARC.

Leadership is the key to sexual assault prevention, response, and appropriate offender accountability. We will continuously educate our Marines and Sailors on how to prevent incidents of sexual assault, while encouraging victims to report these incidents when they occur. Survivors of sexual assault shall be protected from coercion, retaliation, and reprisal in accordance with DoDI 6495.02. Retaliation can unjustly harm the lives and careers of survivors, bystanders, and responders. Retaliation has no place in MACG-38 and every member of this command must do their part to ensure an ethical and just command intolerant of such behavior. As the Sexual Assault Initial Disposition Authority (SA-I DA), I will take all allegations seriously.

It is important to note that in the state of California, the following individuals are **MANDATORY** reporters: healthcare workers at any medical facility off base and law enforcement.

Semper Fidelis,

J. P. Quinter
Colonel, USMC
Commanding Officer

Important phone numbers that I require all members of MACG-38 to have saved and accessible:

MCAS Miramar 24/7 SAPR Support Line: 858-864-2815

Twentynine Palms 24/7 SAPR Support Line: 760-799-0273

MCAS Yuma 24/7 SAPR Support Line: 928-941-3601

Camp Pendleton 24/7 SAPR Support Line: 760-500-1707

MACG-38 duty phone number: 858-307-9605