



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE AIR CONTROL GROUP 38
3D MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, FMF
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR
POST OFFICE BOX 452051
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92145-2051

5300
CO
8 Jun 23

POLICY LETTER 3-23

From: Commanding Officer
To: Distribution List A

Subj: SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Ref: (a) MCO 5300.17
(b) MCO P1900.16F
(c) OPNAVINST 5350.4D

1. Purpose. To establish Marine Air Control Group 38 (MACG-38) policy and procedures for curbing substance abuse and alcohol-related incidents in accordance with the references.

2. Background

a. MCO 5300.17 defines substance abuse as the misuse or wrongful use of a substance; whether or not used therapeutically, legally, or prescribed by a physician. Substance abuse brings discredit upon the Marine Corps, undermines our core values, degrades operational readiness and often results in needless loss of life or serious injury. As such, substance abuse is unacceptable, and Marines and Sailors of all ranks have a responsibility to exercise leadership to curtail it whenever and wherever they see it.

b. This policy letter is an initial step to eradicate substance abuse, and its dire consequences, from MACG-38. It reinforces my determination to hold accountable those Marines and Sailors who engage in this form of misconduct. Equally important, it underscores my commitment to get those Marines and Sailors who may be dependent on any substance the help they need in the form of counseling and rehabilitation.

c. I personally believe that curbing substance abuse is the single greatest contribution we can make towards the safety and wellbeing of our command. In the vast majority of cases, alcohol fuels off-duty accidents, mishaps, and incidents. Responsible consumption of alcohol, therefore, is an important part of a good safety program.

3. Policy. Substance abuse within MACG-38 will not be tolerated. All incidents will be dealt with swiftly and sternly through administrative, punitive, and rehabilitative measures.

4. Action

a. I expect every Marine and Sailor to take personal responsibility for his/her conduct on and off duty.

b. I expect all non-commissioned officers (NCO), staff non-commissioned officers (SNCO), and officers to set the example in terms of drinking responsibly.

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c. I expect leaders at all levels to be vigilant and to have the moral courage to take action against substance abuse when they see it.

d. I expect every Marine and Sailor to take appropriate action when they observe a fellow Marine or Sailor who has had too much to drink.

e. I expect every member of our command to report fellow Marines and Sailors who potentially have substance dependency issues to their chain of command for subsequent referral to the Consolidated Substance Abuse Counseling Center (CSACC).

f. I expect every Marine and Sailor to obey the law and to refrain from drinking alcoholic beverages if under the age of 21.

g. I expect every Marine and Sailor to refrain from providing alcoholic beverages to underage personnel.

h. I expect every Marine and Sailor to refrain from encouraging underage consumption of alcohol.

i. I expect every Marine and Sailor to refrain from operating a motorized or non-motorized vehicle after consuming alcoholic beverages.

j. I expect all Marines and Sailors of legal age who choose to consume alcoholic beverages to do so in a responsible manner. Those who fail to drink in a responsible manner will be held accountable. Responsible drinking involves moderate intake of alcoholic beverages.

k. All alcohol-related incidents will be investigated and reported to the Commanding Officer. Marines with substantiated cases of substance abuse will be referred to the CSACC for screening and, if necessary, treatment and rehabilitation.

5. For matters concerning SACO issues, contact Gunnery Sergeant Jesus Nunez at jesus.nunez@usmc.mil or extension 858-307-8391.

6. Point of contact for this policy is the MACG-38 Executive Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth W. Smith at kenneth.w.smith@usmc.mil or extension 858-307-9601.

J. P. QUINTER

Distribution: A
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3d LAAD Battalion
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