



VMFAT-502

Sexual Assault Policy



Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, threats, intimidation, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent.

Sexual assault is a crime and is not compatible with Marine Corps values. It will not be tolerated in this unit and those guilty will be held accountable and prosecuted to the maximum extent allowed by the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Our best defense against this threat is **awareness** and **prevention**, learning and being ready to be an active bystander. I expect you to **intervene** if you observe an act of sexual assault or encounter an environment where it is likely to occur. Lastly, I encourage all who are aware of an incident to **report** to it. I will not allow those who report to become victims of retaliation, reprisal, ostracism, or maltreatment.

In the event an assault occurs, there are two methods of reporting the incident:

- 1) **Unrestricted reporting** includes all suspected, alleged, or actual sexual assaults made known to command or law enforcement for formal investigation.
- 2) **Restricted reporting** affords military victims of sexual assault the option to make a confidential report to specified individuals (Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocates (SAPR VA)) and to receive care from counselors and healthcare providers.

Victims of sexual assault will be treated with sensitivity, decency and respect. If you feel you are a victim of sexual assault, do not hesitate to contact any of the following resources:

- 24/7 Sexual Assault Line: (858) 864-2815
- Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC): (858) 864-2926
- Chaplain: (858) 307-4443
- Victims Legal Counsel (VLC): (703) 232-3487
- DOD Safe Helpline: (877) 995-5247

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