



COMMANDER'S POLICY STATEMENT



SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Combat Logistics Battalion 22 is tasked to be a ready force, when called to meet the nation's defense requirements. Incidents of sexual assault are severely detrimental to both individuals and the battalion and adversely draw attention away from our primary mission – to provide tactical logistics support above the organic capabilities of supported elements of the MEU. Additionally, sexual assault is a complete and total contradiction to the core values that we as Marines and Sailors hold so dear and are responsible for instilling in those we lead.

Sexual assault is a criminal act and includes intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, threats, intimidation, or abuse of authority, and when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault is demeaning and inconsistent with our Marine Corps Core Values. It is a crime with far-reaching implications for both the victims and assailants; I will not tolerate it at Combat Logistics Battalion 22. Marines and Sailors must strive to deter and prevent incidents. They can do this by recognizing and stopping potentially compromising situations, especially when alcohol is involved. To achieve the Marine Corps' goal, eliminate sexual assault within our ranks, we must eradicate the causes. We eradicate the causes by behaving as **professional warfighters**, who continuously improve our faith, strength, and knowledge physically, mentally, and morally to achieve holistic balance for our personal life, our Marines and Sailors, our battalion, and our Corps. We will prevent sexual assault and other demeaning acts by educating Marines and Sailors, by establishing a professional environment that values each individual in the command, and by reading indicators in the situation to forestall events.

I charge leaders and individuals with taking action to continue eliminating sexual assault. Ignoring or failing to report sexual assault incidents may have damaging consequences. We will respond quickly to reports by safeguarding and caring for victims and protecting the victims' and witnesses' rights. Where cause exists, appropriate legal and/or administrative action will be taken, and violators will be held accountable. Educate Marines and Sailors, and enable them to attend the grade specific and annual training required by Marine Corps Order 1752.5B, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program.

We will treat victims of sexual assault with decency and respect. Victim safety will be first and foremost in response. Victims will receive appropriate medical, emotional, and psychological care to aid in their recovery. Those victims who choose to make a restricted report will have their choice honored. Marines or Sailors who report an assault, must feel confident that we will protect their personal safety and the organization will not re-victimize them.

Eliminating sexual assault will take a dedicated effort throughout the battalion. I challenge each leader and individual to accept responsibility for achieving this goal. Our Marines, sailors, civilians, and family members deserve nothing less than our complete dedication to this cause.

S. P. MULLEN
Commanding Officer
Combat Logistics Battalion 22