



**MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA
COMMANDING OFFICER
SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE POLICY**



Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, threat, intimidation, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not, or cannot consent. Sexual assault is a crime which undermines our Core Values and has no place in our Corps. Sexual assault is a crime which not only violates individual victims, but also damages the entire command. This crime is not restricted by sex, age, or rank.

Sexual assault will not be tolerated. Preventing sexual assault is the responsibility of every member of the Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Yuma team. Being a bystander is not an option. Marines must take decisive action to prevent sexual assault. That means stopping the behaviors which lead to sexual assault, such as sexual harassment and other disrespectful treatment, violence, or aggression. Marines must follow their training and safely intervene in any situation which could lead to a sexual assault.

Every leader shall become familiar with the contents of Marine Corps Order 1752.5C, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program. Commanders and subordinate leaders shall ensure every member of their command is provided with necessary information about the Marine Corp Air Station Yuma SAPR Program, and that they receive annual refresher training.


Victims may elect restricted or unrestricted reporting. A **Restricted Report** allows the victim to receive medical, informational, advocacy, and emotion/psychological counseling support services without notification to law enforcement or the command. A Restricted Report can be made to a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), SAPR Victim Advocate (VA), Healthcare Provider, DoD Safe Helpline 24/7 (877-995-5247) or the MCAS Yuma 24/7 Sexual Assault Support Line (928-941-3601). An **Unrestricted Report** allows a victim to receive medical, informational, advocacy, and emotion/psychological counseling support services, and an official investigation ensues. An Unrestricted Report can be made to law enforcement authorities or the command, as well as to a VA or SARC. Although the victim's identity will not remain confidential, care will be given to ensure that it is released only to those with an actual need-to-know.

If a victim chooses to make a restricted report, that decision will be honored. Every victim who makes a report must have confidence in the command and in the SAPR Program. They must know that their personal safety will be protected and that they will not be stigmatized by members of their unit. If, as a victim or SAPR VA, you experience any form of retaliation, reprisal, ostracism, or maltreatment, you can seek assistance in reporting this through your immediate chain of command, the MCAS Yuma Inspector, or the Victim's Legal Counsel.

The Installation SARC, SAPR VAs, and counselors stand ready to provide assistance to victims of sexual assault. Commanders are responsible for selecting the best suited, most qualified representatives to serve as SAPR VAs, and to employ the available resources for victim support, case management, and training to ensure all members of the MCAS Yuma team are educated about this crime.

Eliminating sexual assault will take a coordinated effort, and I challenge everyone to accept responsibility for achieving this goal. Our Marines, Sailors, Civilian Marines, and family members deserve this from our team.

17 July 2023
Date



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Marine Corps Air Station Yuma