

**Commanding General
II Marine Expeditionary Force
Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Policy Statement**



Sexual assault is a crime. All allegations will be thoroughly investigated and, when supported by the facts, fully prosecuted. Sexual Assault detracts from our mission, degrades our foundational corps values, and runs counter to our ethos. Commanders must cultivate a respectful climate while providing engaged and prevention-focused leadership. Victims and witnesses must know that they will be supported by their commands and be free from retaliation. Offenders will be held accountable.

As leaders, we are responsible for the safety and well-being of all our Service members, both on and off the battlefield. I charge all II MEF Marines, Sailors, and civilians to support the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program, safely intervene when necessary to prevent a sexual assault from occurring, and respond appropriately when a crime does occur. Leaders are responsible for the execution of their role in the SAPR program and must ensure members of their command receive the necessary training on reporting options, limits to confidentiality, available resources, mandatory reporting requirements, and bystander intervention techniques.

Sexual assault occurs without regard to gender, rank, or relationship, and is defined as intentional sexual contact characterized by the use of force, threats, intimidation, or abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Consent cannot occur when a person is asleep, incapacitated, or under the influence of drugs or alcohol, nor is the absence of physical struggle indicative of consent. Consent is not the absence of "no;" it is the presences of "yes."

If you are a victim of sexual assault contact your command SAPR Victim Advocate (VA), health care provider, chaplain, and/or Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC). You will be treated with fairness and respect for your dignity and privacy. All have confidentiality and can help you with a restricted or unrestricted report. You may also utilize The DoD Safe Support Line (877) 995-5247, Lejeune/New River Sexual Assault 24/7 Support Line (910) 750-5852, Cherry Point Sexual Assault 24/7 Support Line (252) 665-4713, or Beaufort Sexual Assault 24/7 Support Line (843) 321-6009 to file a restricted report at anytime. If you wish to make an unrestricted report, all members of your chain of command are available to assist you.

All members of II MEF must be willing to speak out against sexual violence and to intervene when necessary. We are each responsible for assisting victims of crime with finding proper support. We are a team and it is only by our united efforts that we will eradicate sexual assault within our ranks and succeed in creating an environment of respect for one another, honor for our Corps, and courage to do what is right.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. D. Beaudreault". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**B. D. BEAUDREAULT
Lieutenant General, U.S. Marine Corps
II MEF Commanding General**