



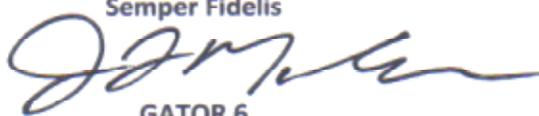
**COMMANDING OFFICER'S
2D ASSAULT AMPHIBIAN BN
STATEMENT ON
HAZING**



One of the most distinguishing qualities that Marines are known for around the world is that Marines take care of their own. As Marines and Sailors of 2d Assault Amphibian Battalion and the 'First Wave', we have faith and trust in one another. This faith must be unshakable and in keeping with our Corps values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. Our faith is embodied in our motto "Semper Fidelis" and it is earned and sustained through our daily actions and conduct. We have a bond to one another that directly affects our operational readiness and our ability to fight and win in combat. Hazing destroys this bond and as a result makes us far less capable in achieving operational readiness. Every Marine and Sailor of this battalion is responsible for preventing and eradicating the behaviors associated with hazing while at the same time educating your subordinates on what constitutes such acts.

Per MCO 1700.28A, hazing is defined as any conduct whereby one military member, regardless of service or rank, cause another military member, regardless of service or rank, to suffer or be exposed to any activity that is cruel, abusive, humiliating, or oppressive. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any form of initiation or congratulatory act that involves physical striking to inflict pain, verbal berating, encouraging excessive alcohol consumption, or encouraging engagement in illegal, harmful, demeaning, or dangerous acts. Solicitation or coercion to participate in any such activity is also considered hazing. Hazing need not involve physical contact among or between military members; it can be verbal or psychological in nature. The Marine Corps' definition on hazing is clear and does not require a Marine being subjected to inappropriate acts to think he is being hazed. Simply put, hazing may exist even though the victim does not believe hazing has occurred. Reprisal actions against any victim(s) or witness(es) of hazing incidents are strictly prohibited. Report all violations to your chain of command immediately.

All Marines and Sailors in this battalion will be treated with dignity and respect. Allowing hazing is inconsistent with our values and detrimental to the mission of this battalion. Leaders will be vigilant to mitigate situations where conditions are ripe for hazing. Whether during formal ceremonies or unit events, proper supervision will ensure conditions for hazing do not exist. Take care of one another, have faith and trust in the members of this battalion and do what is always right.

Semper Fidelis

GATOR 6
J.L. MEDEIROS, Jr.