



2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION COMMANDER'S HAZING POLICY STATEMENT



The purpose of my Commander's Policy on Hazing is to promote an environment where all members of this command are treated with dignity and respect. Hazing is contrary to our core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment and is prejudicial to good order and discipline. It tears at the fabric of our Marine Corps, compromises leadership, destroys readiness and impedes our ability to accomplish the mission. Hazing in any form will not be tolerated.

According to the Marine Corps Order hazing is defined as any conduct whereby a military member or members, regardless of Service or rank, without proper authority causes another military member or members, to suffer or be exposed to any activity which is cruel, abusive, humiliating, oppressive, demeaning/or harmful. Soliciting or coercing another to perpetrate 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. Actual or implied consent to acts of hazing does not eliminate culpability of the perpetrator.

While some may view unauthorized acts of congratulatory, initiation, or rites of passage as a matter of tradition or building Esprit de Corps what they are really accomplishing is a violation of the UCMJ. Common forms of hazing include chevron pinning, blood striping, encouraging abusive drinking, abusive or ridiculous pranks, axe qualifications, shaved heads before a first deployment, and excessive or unauthorized physical training. All of which is unacceptable.

Additionally, in the engineer community there seems to be a trend where Marines and Sailors who have done a deployment or have earned their combat action ribbon feel as though they are entitled to different standards from those who have not deployed or been exposed to the dangers of combat. I will tell you this misbelief is unacceptable, it is a slippery slope that leads to hazing and is a failure of leadership. There is only one standard – the Marine Corps Standard.

The prevention of hazing is an all hands responsibility. The chain of command shall supervise all authorized traditional and customary activities to ensure all military members are treated with dignity and respect. Anyone with knowledge of acts of hazing must take appropriate action to ensure it is stopped and then immediately report it using their chain of command. Further reporting will be conducted in accordance with MCO 1700.28B. Possible consequences for engaging in hazing include adverse administrative and/or legal actions.

The Equal Opportunity Representative for 2d CEB is SSgt Darrol Wynn and he can be reached on his work phone at (910) 451-3704.

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Commanding Officer