



2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION
COMMANDING OFFICER'S
SUBSTANCE ABUSE
POLICY STATEMENT



Every Marine and Sailor in 2d Combat Engineer Battalion plays a critical role in the operational readiness and effectiveness of this unit. It is vital that each member takes ownership of their mental, physical, spiritual, and professional growth and development. One of the most detrimental influences to the positive development of this growth is substance abuse. Substance abuse includes illegal drug use, prescription drug abuse, and alcohol abuse.

Individuals who abuse substances, regardless of the legality of the substance, often have a history of trauma or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), or they are feeling overwhelmed by personal and/or professional stressors. If you have a history of trauma and abuse, or if you are feeling overwhelmed by immediate life stressors, I want you to please reach out to your chain of command, the chaplain, Operational Stress Control and Readiness team (OSCAR), or other available resources to help you get on your feet and work towards a healthy place. You cannot change your history, but by reaching out for help then you can change the direction of your current future. The Sergeant Major and I are here to support you in getting help.

The Marine Corps has a zero-tolerance policy for illegal drug use; this includes the use of prescription drugs for which you do not have a prescription, and prescription drugs that were prescribed to you for a specific event, but you no longer require. An example of this is a narcotic prescription for a surgery from eight months ago; you cannot take these whenever you want. **If you ingest illegal drugs, then the Marine Corps requires immediate processing for administrative separation.**

Alcohol consumption, while legal for Marines who are over 21, can easily transition from safe/legal to unsafe/unhealthy, regardless of age. This happens when too much alcohol is consumed on a singular or regular basis. Additionally, alcohol is one of the leading contributors to off-duty incidents, including: driving under the influence (DUI), sexual assault, drug abuse, and domestic violence.

If you misuse or abuse illicit drugs, prescription drugs, or alcohol, then you could receive administrative action or punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The Sergeant Major and I value each one of you and want you to remain as active, contributing members of this unit. If you are struggling with past trauma or current stress, then don't self-medicate with illicit substances and instead reach out for help. **There is no problem that substance abuse makes better.**

B. S. PETERSON
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Commanding Officer, 2d Combat Engineer Battalion