



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS EAST
PSC BOX 20005
CAMP LEJEUNE NC 28542-0005

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5000

CG

05 MAR 2012

COMMANDING GENERAL'S POLICY LETTER 003-12

From: Commanding General
To: All Commanders, Marine Corps Installations East
Subj: HAZING
Ref: (a) MCO 1700.28A
(b) JAGINST 5800.7E w/Ch 1-2
(c) MCO 3504.2
(d) MCIEASTO 3040.1D

1. Purpose. To provide guidance on the Commanding General's policy regarding hazing within Marine Corps Installations East (MCIEAST) in accordance with references (a) through (d).

2. Information. History has shown that hazing can happen in any unit, and the keys to prevention are training, leadership, supervision, and accountability. Hazing is often justified as an effort to build teamwork, morale, and esprit de corps, but in fact, it is little more than abusive, degrading treatment. Rather than enhancing morale in the unit, it has the completely opposite effect. Over the years, extreme hazing cases have resulted in Marines suffering serious injuries and even death, and many careers have been destroyed.

3. Action

a. Ensure the content of reference (a) are known by all personnel under your command.

b. Provide appropriate training as part of your command's orientation and annual troop information programs to ensure that Marines are aware of the contents of reference (a).

c. Foster a command climate that is conducive to the reporting of hazing incidents and be aware of the sensitive nature with which this type of report, as well as the victims' privacy, must be handled.

Subj: HAZING

d. Any allegations of hazing will be the subject of, at a minimum, a written Preliminary Inquiry conducted pursuant to reference (b). A copy of the investigation will be forwarded via the MCIEAST Staff Judge Advocate to the MCIEAST Command Inspector General along with recommended actions in substantiated cases.

e. Report only substantiated incidents after completion of the preliminary inquiry, and not those based on the allegation of hazing, via Operations Event/Incident Report (OPREP-3) to the Commandant of the Marine Corps in accordance with references (c) and (d).

f. Publish a Commanding Officer Policy Statement on hazing which addresses the tenets of reference (a). The policy statement shall be prominently posted on all command bulletin boards, in common areas, and in high traffic areas, and shall be discussed during leadership training.

4. Point of contact is the MCIEAST Adjutant at DSN 751-3033 or commercial 910-451-3033.


T. A. GORRY

Copy to:
COMMCICOM
SJA
CIG



COMMANDING GENERAL'S POLICY ON HAZING

The practice of hazing will not be tolerated within Marine Corps Installations East (MCIEAST) and its subordinate commands. Aside from serving no useful purpose, the demeaning and abusive activities associated with hazing inhibit performance, debase personal dignity, and can result in serious injury. To prevent it, we must promote an awareness of what constitutes hazing and understand the negative impact of such activities. Hazing typically occurs in connection with various impromptu and unsupervised "initiations" and is the result of the erroneous perception that the event gives license to subject an individual to personal abuse. Examples include: "pinning" on of rank, awarding the blood stripe through a gauntlet, application of grease, oil, or other noxious substances on a member's body, forcing consumption or encouragement to consume excessive quantities of alcohol, offensive hitting, slapping, or touching another individual, and any other action which subjects an individual, to ridicule or embarrassment. Some incidents of hazing have been condoned as unit initiations or innocent jest without intent to harm. Although the actions or verbal harassment may be considered humorous by some observers, they often create a real fear in the minds of the victims. Further, they undermine the very morale and esprit de corps they purport to advance. Hazing constitutes military misconduct, and its prevention is an all-hands responsibility. Victims and casual observers shall report all violations of this policy. There is no place in the Marine Corps for dehumanizing treatment, and every incident of hazing shall be investigated with appropriate disciplinary action initiated against the perpetrators, including those in the chain of command who tacitly condone such practices either by their inaction or by neglecting to investigate reported suspected incidents. Our success as an organization very much depends on our people. A healthy, positive, and professional work and duty environment is essential to enable each of us to contribute.

I am directing the leadership throughout MCIEAST to ensure every member of this Command is educated with regard to this Policy. All Marines, Sailors, and Civilians are required to review MCO 1700.28A on hazing. Anyone who witnesses, or believes, any event crosses the line has a moral obligation to put a stop to it immediately and report it via the chain of command. Strong application of this policy will help us support an environment that maintains our core values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. A. Gorry". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the printed name.

T. A. GORRY
Brigadier General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding General
Marine Corps Installations East