



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

5100  
SAFE  
OCT 31 2014

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff:

The Heating, Ventilation and Cooling (HVAC) system of the Courthouse Bay Child Development Center (CDC) is contributing to excess moisture in the building and causing a mold issue. We wanted to update you and express our appreciation for your patience in this matter. We have a contract in place to repair and ensure the HVAC system is working properly. In the meantime, we are committed to taking all appropriate measures to maintain a safe and healthful facility.

The United States Marine Corps is committed to protecting the health of all our children and staff by providing them a safe and healthy environment in our schools and CDCs. Airborne mold spores are found in both indoor and outdoor environments. No established Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) exist for indoor airborne mold/mildew. Since there are no established standard for airborne mold/mildew, the consensus standard has been to maintain a lower spore count inside a facility than outside. Additionally, though not required by federal law, the Marine Corps chooses to follow the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency three-step process for mold/mildew remediation in our facilities. These steps include: (1) investigation, (2) evaluation, and (3) remediation of moisture and mold. We have done this at the Courthouse Bay CDC.

We completed a mold/mildew sampling test on 15 October 2014. The detailed results can be found at the following web link:  
<http://www.mcieast.marines.mil/StaffOffices/Safety/OccupationalSafetyHealth.aspx>

The results indicated that all occupied rooms have a much lower spore count than outside, which is satisfactory. The only elevated result was found in Toddler Room 1 that was only used for three months and has been secured and unoccupied since March of 2014.

We are anticipating that the HVAC system will be adequately serviced and all necessary repairs completed by 17 November 2014. After completion, we will communicate our follow-on monitoring plan. We are fully engaged in taking steps necessary to ensure our children's and staff's continued safety, health, and well-being.

If you have additional questions, please contact Mr. Ronald Sarmiento, Deputy Director of Safety, at [ronald.sarmiento@usmc.mil](mailto:ronald.sarmiento@usmc.mil) or 451-7454.

Sincerely,  
  
S. J. DUTKO, JR.  
Director of Safety  
MCIEAST-MCB Camp Lejeune