



COMMANDING GENERAL'S HAZING POLICY STATEMENT



Any form of hazing is hereby expressly forbidden and will not be tolerated aboard any base or station within Marine Corps Installations West-Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton (MCIWEST-MCB CAMPEN). 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, regardless of service or rank, 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.

Hazing is contrary to our Corps Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment and is prejudicial to good order and discipline. It is a willful and demeaning act that degrades and diminishes the ability of victims, and in some cases witnesses, to function effectively within their units. At its core, hazing exploits and creates an environment of fear and reprisal, destroying the confidence and trust that is central to unit cohesion, teamwork, and combat readiness – the very lifeblood of our Corps. Hazing is contrary to our ethos of “taking care of our own” and violates the high standards of virtuous conduct and soldierly reputation earned by Marines who have served our Corps honorably since its inception. Hazing violates our institutional character and disrespects our most precious asset – our Marines and Sailors. Categorically, hazing will not be tolerated. Violators will be pursued and prosecuted.

I charge leaders at all levels to become familiar with the contents of Marine Corps Order 1700.28B, Hazing. No Marine or Sailor within MCIWEST-MCB CAMPEN may engage in hazing or consent to acts of hazing being committed upon them. No one in a supervisory position may, by act, word, or omission, condone or ignore hazing if they know, or reasonably should have known, that hazing may or did occur. Consent to hazing is not a defense. Any violation, attempted violation, or solicitation of another to violate the contents of Marine Corps Order 1700.28B, subjects involved members to administrative or disciplinary action under Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The following avenues, in order of precedence, are available to report instances of hazing:

- Inform your Chain of Command. If your immediate superiors are involved, request mast to your Commanding Officer or to myself.
- Call the Inspector General, MCIWEST-MCB CAMPEN at 760-725-5144.
- Call the Inspector General of the Marine Corps Hotline at 703-604-4526, DSN 664-4526.
- Use the Hotline procedures found at the Inspector General link on www.hqmc.usmc.mil.

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