



COMMANDING OFFICER'S SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY STATEMENT



Substance abuse is fundamentally incompatible with the core values of the Navy and Marine Corps, and with the successful execution of the Field Medical Training Battalion-West (FMTB-W) mission. We operate in a zero-tolerance environment for illegal drugs and demand responsible behavior regarding alcohol.

Zero Tolerance for Illegal Drugs

Any Sailor or Marine found using, possessing, selling, manufacturing, or distributing illicit substances will face appropriate disciplinary action and mandatory processing for administrative separation in accordance with the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) and applicable Federal, State, or local statutes.

This policy strictly applies to all controlled substances, designer drugs, inhalants (huffing), anabolic steroids, and the intentional or unintentional misuse or abuse of prescription and over-the-counter medications.

Alcohol Misuse and DUIs

Irresponsible alcohol consumption degrades readiness and puts lives at risk. Engaging in activities such as underage drinking or driving under the influence (DUI)—whether stemming from alcohol or drugs—will not be tolerated aboard FMTB-W or in our local communities.

Leadership and Proactive Intervention

All hands, from staff to students, must actively protect themselves, their families, and their shipmates from the destructive effects of dependency and overindulgence. As leaders in the profession of arms, you are expected to:

- Know the signs: Learn and recognize the symptoms of substance misuse.
- Have the courage to act: Intervene and challenge inappropriate behaviors early. We must act swiftly to help our shipmates long before they encounter legal, medical, or career-ending troubles.

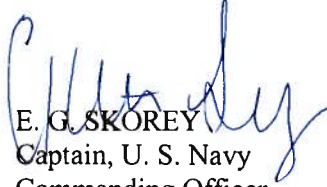
Getting Help: No Stigma, No Reprisal

Personnel involved in any drug or alcohol-related incidents will be referred to the Substance Abuse Control Officer (SACO) for screening, counseling, and appropriate care.

More importantly, I strongly encourage any Sailor or Marine who feels they may be struggling with substance abuse to seek help proactively. You can seek assistance from the SACO without stigma or reprisal. Our ultimate goal is to assist our teammates early and effectively, ensuring they recover and remain productive members of FMTB-W and the Naval Service.

Mandatory Familiarization and Next Steps

All staff and students are required to read and familiarize themselves with Marine Corps Order 5 300.17A (Marine Corps Substance Abuse Program), in addition to this command policy. To learn more, seek advice, or report a situation, contact your Chain of Command or the FMTB-W SACO immediately.


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