



COMMANDER'S STATEMENT ON HAZING



Hazing of any kind or at any level will not be tolerated. Hazing violates our core values and impairs our ability to fight and win the nation's battles. It also violates the dignity of our Marines and Sailors and brings dishonor upon our command.

MCO 1700.28B defines hazing 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."

The Marines and Sailors of MWSS-271 are not permitted to "volunteer" to be hazed or participate in hazing of any type. Actual or implied consent to acts of hazing is not an acceptable defense.

It is the duty of every individual in MWSS-271 to stop or prevent hazing. If an individual is found guilty of committing an act of hazing, he or she can expect to be held accountable by facing judicial or non-judicial action. Individuals who observe, but do not stop or report hazing immediately will also be held accountable.

If you are subjected to hazing, or if you are aware of an act of hazing being committed, you must report it immediately. Reports of hazing will be submitted through the chain-of-command, or through other avenues, such as the Squadron Equal Opportunity Representative or Chaplain.


S. E. SCHULTZE