

Resources for Those Affected by Inappropriate Online Conduct
Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I think my picture was posted on Marines United or similar webpage. Who can I contact to report this?

A: Marines who believe they have been a victim of inappropriate online conduct and who would like to maintain their privacy are encouraged to report the misconduct to their chaplain or a Victims' Legal Counsel. Other resources include the Chain of Command, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Local Law Enforcement, Inspector General, Equal Opportunity Advisors, Victim Witness Assistant Coordinators, Victim Advocates, Behavioral Health Counselors (Community Counseling Program), and Military OneSource.

Additionally, the Marine Corps DSTRESS Line 1-877-476-7734 provides anonymous phone and chat referral service available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Marines who have witnessed prohibited conduct should report the misconduct to their Chain of Command. You can contact the Naval Criminal Investigative Service through their website at <http://www.ncis.navy.mil/>, by texting "NCIS" plus your information to 274637 (CRIMES), by using the TipSubmit App, and/or by calling (877) 579-3648.

Resources available Locally on Okinawa or accessible from Okinawa are as follows:

Chaplains: 645-7486

Victims ' Legal Counsel: 645-4421

MCCS Behavioral Health Counselors (Community Counseling Programs) 645-2915

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocates: 645-2134

Sexual Assault Response Coordinators: IIIMEF: 623-1007/3dMAR DIV 622-4016/1st MAW 636-2938/3rd

MLG 637-2012/Installation SARC 645-4353

Chain of Command: Unit Dependent

NCIS: 645-0213

Local Law Enforcement (PMO)-098-893-7911/645-1716

Inspector General: 645-3788

Equal Opportunity Advisors: 645-3555

Victim Witness Assistant Coordinators: 090-6861-5235

Military OneSource: 800-869-0278

Marine Corps DSTRESS Line {1-877-476-7734}/access DSTRESS via www.marines.mil

Q: I think my picture was posted on Marines United or similar webpage. I want to talk to someone and access counseling services, but I don't want to make a formal report. Who can I contact?

A: The Marine Corps DSTRESS Line at 1-877-476-7734 provides anonymous phone and chat referral services available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. No personally identifiable information will be recorded during the call. You can also access DSTRESS via www.marines.mil.

Alternatively, you can contact support services directly. Marines who believe they have been affected by inappropriate online conduct and who would like to maintain their privacy are encouraged to report the misconduct to their Chaplain or a Victims' Legal Counsel. Other resources include Equal Opportunity Advisors, Victim Witness Assistant Coordinators, Victim Advocates, Behavioral Health Counselors (Community Counseling Program), and Military OneSource.

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Q: If I report something, will my information remain private?

A: Victims of inappropriate online conduct who would like to maintain their privacy are encouraged to report the misconduct to their Chaplain or a Victims' Legal Counsel.

Article 6b of the Uniform Code of Military Justice provides each victim of a Uniform Code of Military Justice offense with "the right to be treated with fairness and with respect for the dignity and privacy of the victim." The personal information of anyone who reports an offense will be kept private to the maximum extent possible by those officials who are involved in investigating the reported misconduct, holding the offender(s) accountable, or assisting the victim or witness who reported the incident.

Q: I think I know someone in one of the pictures or I know someone who posted on Marines United or similar webpage. What should I do?

A: Record details about the page and take a screenshot if possible. If you have witnessed prohibited conduct, you should report it to your Chain of Command. Information can also be reported to the Naval Criminal Investigative Service through their website at <http://www.ncis.navy.mil/>, by texting "NCIS" plus your information to 274637 (CRIMES), by using the TipSubmit App, and/or by calling (877) 579-3648. You can also report through your local Inspector General Hotline.

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Q: What is the Marine Corps doing to shut down these webpages?

A: The Corps is currently conducting an investigation into the situation and is working alongside the host sites and social media platforms to identify inappropriate uses of their sites that violate the relevant company's terms of service. As we identify these inappropriate uses, we are notifying the host sites and social media platforms and requesting that the content be removed. If you have knowledge of a page or internet site that has inappropriate content that violates the company's terms of service, please contact the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

Q: What happens if I experience reprisal or retaliation after I report?

A: The Marine Corps takes allegations of retaliation seriously. Retaliatory behavior – whether on duty, on liberty, or online – is detrimental to victims and to unit cohesion and readiness. If you experience any act of retaliation, including reprisal, ostracism, or maltreatment, you should report it to your Chain of Command, your local Inspector General, the Department of Defense Inspector General, or your local Equal Opportunity Advisor.

Okinawa Local Service are as follows:

Inspector General: 645-3788

Equal Opportunity Advisors: 645-3555

Q: Members of my unit saw my picture posted on the Marines United page and now I'm being harassed. What do I do?

A: If you haven't already reported, consider contacting your Chain of Command, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, your local Inspector General, the Department of Defense Inspector General, or your local Equal Opportunity Advisor.

Okinawa Local Service are as follows:

NCIS: 645-0213

Inspector General: 645-3788

Equal Opportunity Advisors: 645-3555

Q: I am receiving calls from the press, what should I do?

A: Direct the reporter to your local Public Affairs Office. Marines are not forbidden from telling their story; however, they should be offered resources and guidance from the installation Public Affairs Office and Legal Assistance Office as speaking publicly could affect potential future legal proceedings. Media queries about the ongoing investigation should be directed to the Office of Marine Corps Communication: ontherecord@usmc.mil, 703-614-4309, or the Naval Criminal Investigative Service Public Affairs Office: Ed Buice, 571-305-9070, ed.buice@ncis.navy.mil.

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Q: What is going to happen to the people who posted my picture?

A: The Naval Criminal Investigative Service has opened investigations relating to 1) Marines who were affected by posting on Marines United and 2) Marines who may have violated the Uniform Code of Military Justice by posting images or making inappropriate comments/posts. It is not our policy to discuss ongoing investigations as it may compromise the investigative processes. Please refer any requests for information about the investigation to the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

Q: How can I get out of my unit? They know all about the pictures of me posted on Marines United.

A: Any requests to be transferred to another unit to should be addressed through the Chain of Command. Marines may request mast with any officer in the Chain of Command.