

# COMMANDING OFFICER'S SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

**"Irresponsible use of alcohol and any use  
of drugs will not be tolerated at any level"**



I have a zero tolerance for substance abuse. In accordance with MCO 1700.24B the use, distribution, or possession of illegal drugs, or abuse/misuse of prescription drugs is unauthorized and is inconsistent with our core values as Marines. In addition to affecting our ability to accomplish our mission, substance abuse destroys careers, families, and lives.

Any Marine or Sailor determined to be using, selling, manufacturing or distributing drugs, in violation of applicable provisions of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), Federal, State or local statutes, will be investigated, disciplined as appropriate, and processed for administrative separation. This includes the use of controlled substances, products made or derived from hemp including cannabidiol (CBD), designer drugs (e.g. spice), inhalants (huffing), anabolic steroids, over the counter medications and prescription drugs.

The goal is zero alcohol or drug related incidents. Getting there requires aggressive and proactive leadership at all levels. Peer leadership is the critical component to this equation. We are our brother's and sister's keeper. If you see something, do something. Those within H&S Bn MCIPAC-MCBB who turn a blind eye to the use of illicit drugs or the abuse of alcohol are condoning that behavior. Anyone who encounters or observes the use of illicit drugs or the abuse of alcohol is expected to take appropriate action. This notification can be via your chain of command or the Substance Abuse Control Officer (SACO).

We take care of our own. The SACO will screen, counsel, and facilitate medical evaluation for anyone with a drug or alcohol related incident. If diagnosed as drug or alcohol dependent, they will be assigned to the appropriate treatment program. Our goal is to help that member of the Battalion deal with their problems and return stronger than before. Every one of you performs a mission critical role. Remember, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. We will take care of each member of the Battalion through prevention and timely identification using aggressive leadership at all levels.

To further amplify substance abuse prevention effort, urinalysis will be conducted for all personnel, including subordinate units regardless of geographical location. Personnel executing permanent change of station (PCS), returning from leave exceeding 7 days, or returning from unauthorized absence will be tested within 72 hours; every month random urinalysis will be conducted, including the SACOs, UPCs, and observers. Alcohol and substance abuse kills Marines and Sailors and degrades our ability to support the fleet's ability to fight now. Be zealous protectors of the honor and integrity of the legacy you are part of. It's not just about protecting what you've earned – we must honor those Marines who have gone before us by protecting what they earned. Irresponsible use of alcohol and any use of drugs will not be tolerated at any level...and if you are driving, do not drink - not one drop!

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Hammond".

Jeff Hammond  
Col USMC