



MARINE AVIATION LOGISTICS SQUADRON 31
CO's Illegal Drug Use, Alcohol Abuse,
and Military Service Policy
March 2012



Marines and Sailors of MALS-31,

Marine Corps and Navy Policies clearly state that the possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs will not be tolerated. In addition to illegal drugs, alcohol abuse will also not be tolerated. I fully support these policies and will enforce them.

The possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs as well as alcohol abuse will not be tolerated.

Let me reiterate a message I've communicated several times: "Our standards and core values of *Honor, Courage, and Commitment* will always come first and will not be compromised by the demands of our mission or other circumstances that arise in life. We will never waiver from doing the right thing and demonstrating impeccable character. We will also demonstrate integrity, in part, by being true to our Corps, the mission, our fellow Marines and Sailors, families, and ourselves. Our personal conduct, appearance, and professional skills must always reflect the highest in military virtues, remain consistent with Marine Corps lore, and *always be above reproach*. We shall epitomize what the American people have come to expect from their Navy-Marine Corps Team."

With that said, illegal drugs are just that... **ILLEGAL! They have no place among the lifestyle of Marines or Sailors.** Prior to recruit training, all enlisted Marines agree to abstain from illegal drug use in their "Statement of Understanding Regarding USMC Policy on illegal Drug Use" contractual agreement. I am personally committed to enforcing this legally binding document to its full extent; there will be no exceptions.

The urinalysis program is one of several effective tools available to identify drug users and to deter drug use within our squadron. I will utilize this random screening tool to assist in identifying those personnel who choose to engage in illegal drug use. Despite what is often rumored, most drugs stay in the body for over 30 days and will be picked up in a urinalysis. The urinalysis currently in use by the military can now detect "spice." In addition to the urinalysis program, the barracks and parking lots are subject to search and sweeping by drug-sniffing law enforcement canines, which are now being trained to detect "spice." **For those using illegal drugs, getting caught is a question of "when," not "if."**

Under no circumstances will any disciplinary or administrative action be taken on a Marine or Sailor identified as a possible drug user without appropriate investigation and confirmation. As your Commanding Officer, I am authorized to discipline military personnel who have used, distributed, or possess illegal drugs. All personnel who have been found guilty of one or all of the aforementioned disciplinary infractions will be recommended for administrative separation for misconduct under "other than honorable" conditions.

The Marine Corps policy on alcohol abuse states that "alcohol abuse is not tolerated" and the Marines or Sailors who abuse alcohol will be held fully accountable for their actions. Accidental injuries, motor vehicle accidents, and general misconduct resulting from alcohol abuse impact the good order and discipline of our unit, and in many cases, are punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Every member of this command is responsible for his or her own actions whether under the influence of alcohol or not. Many preventative tools are available in treating alcohol abuse and dependency. These programs include: screening, counseling, physiological and psychological treatment and rehabilitation (both out and inpatient). Do not wait for an alcohol related incident to "command direct" you for screening. If you need help with an alcohol problem, "self-refer." The squadron Substance Abuse Control Office can be reach at 228-7805

The Marine Corps, and more specifically MALS-31, have no place for involvement of any kind with illegal drugs or alcohol abuse. Please don't discredit the cloth of your country by violating this policy. Adhering to this policy is what our Nation, our leadership, and I expect.

Semper Fidelis,

WILLIAM C. GRAY

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer, MALS-31