



## Substance Abuse Policy Statement



**Background:** The Support Battalion mission is dynamic and demands the utmost from every member of this command. The abuse of alcohol and illegal drug use is contrary to Marine Corps Policy and Core Values, Detrimental to the unit mission, damaging to the individual and as such will not be tolerated.

**Do the right thing.** The Marine Corps policy on illegal drugs use is clear - ZERO TOLERANCE. Likewise, my policy is clear - any individual in this battalion who tests positive for illegal drug use will be processed for separation immediately.



**The legal drinking age is 21.** The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages while under the age of 21 years is prohibited. I will not glamorize the use of an alcohol at unit events or functions and charge you to always provide alternatives to alcohol at all unit functions.

**Substance abuse is not limited to illegal drugs.** Dangers of prescriptions medication, over-the-counter drugs, and alcohol can be increased when used in excess or abused in a manner not consistent with their intended purpose. Poor decisions and irresponsible behavior jeopardize mission readiness and unnecessarily risks lives. I charge you to demonstrate through your own example, the highest standard of personal conduct.

Anyone classified as having a drug or alcohol incident will be referred to the Substance Abuse Control Officer (SACO), for further evaluation. If a member is diagnosed as alcohol or drug dependent they will be assigned to the appropriate treatment facility. Upon successful completion of treatment, personnel will return to their work center without prejudice.

**Everyone is essential to this command and our mission accomplishment.** To degrade our mission readiness and combat effectiveness due to irresponsible behavior, unnecessary risk, or illegal activity is simply not acceptable.

S. R. HESSER  
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Commanding Officer