

**MARINE CORPS RECRUITING STATION JACKSONVILLE
COMMANDING OFFICER'S
HAZING POLICY STATEMENT**



Recruiting Station Jacksonville makes mission because of our outstanding Marines and civilians. A healthy, positive, professional work environment, free from hazing, is essential in enabling all personnel to contribute to mission success. My goal is to ensure a command climate that prevents hazing and if prevention fails, encourages reporting and ensures an appropriate command response while respecting a victim's privacy.

Hazing, subjecting an individual to harassment or ridicule is prohibited and will not be tolerated. No member of RS Jacksonville is to engage in hazing or consent to being hazed. Hazing prevention is an all-hands responsibility.

Hazing serves no useful purpose and is contrary to our core values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment; it has no place in RS Jacksonville. The demeaning, abusive activities associated with hazing inhibit performance, debase personal dignity, and can result in serious injury.

Hazing, as defined by MCO 1700.28B, is 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. - THIS INCLUDES OUR CIVILIAN APPLICANTS AND POOLEES. Soliciting or coercing another to conduct such activity constitutes hazing as well. Hazing can also be verbal or psychological in nature as well as physical. Activities meeting these criteria constitute hazing even if there is actual or implied consent to the acts.

Hazing undermines the very morale and esprit de corps it purports to advance. Hazing is punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and in cases where prevention fails, this command will:

- Investigate any hazing incident
- Initiate appropriate administrative or disciplinary action

Remember, setting the conditions for preventing hazing is everybody's responsibility.

Keep charging, take action, and recruit excellence at the speed of war.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. L. Valenti".

M. L. Valenti
Major, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer, Recruiting Station Jacksonville