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MARINE CORPS BULLETIN 1730

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps
To: Distribution List

Subj: U.S. MARINE CORPS ORGANIZATION AND UTILIZATION OF NAVY
RESERVE RELIGIOUS MINISTRY SUPPORT UNITS

Ref: (a) MCO 1730.6E
(b) DoD Instruction 1215.06 CH 1, "Uniform Reserve, Training, and Retirement Categories for the Reserve Components," 19 May 2015
(c) MCO 1000.12
(d) MCO 1001.62A
(e) DoD Instruction 1235.11 "Management of Individual Mobilization Augmentees (IMAs)," 24 May 2007
(f) RESPERSMAN M-1001.5
(g) MCO 5311.6
(h) OPNAVINST 1001.20C
(i) 5 U.S.C. 552a
(j) SECNAVINST 5211.5E
(k) SECNAV M-5210.1

1. Purpose. To establish policy regarding United States Marine Corps' (USMC) organization and utilization of Navy Reserve (NR) USMC Religious Support (RELSUP) units.

2. Background

a. Per reference (a), religious ministry in the Marine Corps provides for the free exercise of religion, attends to the sacred, spiritual, and moral aspects of life, and serves to enhance the resilience of service members, civilians, and their families.

b. NR USMC RELSUP units are established to support Active Component (AC) commands to meet religious ministry mission requirements per references (a) through (d) and increase operational readiness, responsiveness, and skill proficiency of NR USMC RELSUP personnel.

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c. The NR USMC RELSUP units are aligned to AC USMC commands and staffs, and tasked by Commander, Navy Reserve Force (COMNAVRESFOR) to deliver trained and qualified NR chaplains and religious program specialists (RP) to fill NR billets which support the delivery of religious ministry in the USMC during warfighting, contingency operations, and peacetime augmentation.

d. NR USMC RELSUP units are established by Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command (COMNAVRESFORCOM) under a NR Unit Identification Code and comprised of Navy Billet Identification Numbers (BIN). Per reference (e), BINs are aligned to validated USMC Billet Identification Codes on the AC command's Table of Organization (T/O) for fill by Reserve Component (RC) members.

3. Information

a. Composition, Management, and Administration

(1) NR USMC RELSUP units consist of chaplains and RPs, with a chaplain serving as the officer in charge (OIC).

(2) COMNAVRESFOR is the resource sponsor, per reference (c), and has overall responsibility for RC personnel assigned to NR USMC RELSUP units.

(3) Commander, Marine Forces Reserve (COMMARFORRES), per reference (c), is the executive agent and executes peacetime management within the USMC of NR personnel who support USMC units and activities.

(4) Navy Reserve Activities (NRA), per reference (f), provide support to all NR personnel assigned to a NR USMC RELSUP unit for routine administrative requirements that are beyond the scope of responsibility of the AC command to which the unit provides support.

b. Funding

(1) COMNAVRESFOR is the funding source for NR USMC RELSUP units. The NRA manages funding for Inactive Duty Training (IDT), Annual Training (AT), and Exceptional Annual Training (E-AT).

(2) The COMMARFORRES Chaplain's Office functions as the religious ministry Operational Support Office (OSO) and manages funding provided by COMNAVRESFORCOM via the Bureau of Navy

Medicine pillar for Additional Duty Training (ADT), Additional Training Periods (ATP), and Inactive Duty Training Travel (IDTT).

c. Training

(1) NR USMC RELSUP units are training units designed to ensure assigned personnel achieve and maintain required mobilization readiness standards while adhering to NR administrative requirements.

(2) NR USMC RELSUP units are trained to provide the AC command with an expeditiously accessible augmentation resource of religious ministry personnel to respond to emergent requirements, support mobilization (including pre- and/or post-mobilization) requirements, contingency operations, stability operations, or other specialized or technical requirements across the range of military operations.

(3) The primary purpose of IDT, IDTT, ATP, ADT, and AT is to provide individual and/or unit readiness training, per reference (b). All personnel assigned to NR USMC RELSUP units are expected to voluntarily participate in the flexible drilling option in order to provide the best support to the supported command mission per reference (f).

(4) NR USMC RELSUP personnel train to, acquire, and maintain proficiencies to meet USMC AC augmentation requirements across the full spectrum of USMC operations, per reference (e).

4. Action

a. Deputy Commandant, Combat Development and Integration (DC CD&I). Restructure existing NR religious ministry support on USMC AC T/O into RELSUP Sections on the T/O of Marine Corps Forces Command (MARFORCOM), Marine Corps Forces Pacific (MARFORPAC), I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF), II MEF, III MEF, Marine Corps Installations Command (MCICOM), Marine Corps Combat Development Command (MCCDC), Marine Forces Reserve (MARFORRES), and Headquarters, Marine Corps (HQMC). In coordination with the Chaplain U.S. Marine Corps and COMNAVRESFORCOM, distribute existing NR religious ministry manning inventory into NR USMC RELSUP units with OICs.

b. COMMARFORRES

(1) Monitor and assess manning, training, and readiness of NR USMC RELSUP personnel.

(a) Establish systems, track procedures, and ensure proper coordination with COMNAVRESFOR and NR systems which source NR USMC RELSUP personnel.

(b) Validate proficiencies identified by supported commands and coordinate/conduct requisite training of NR USMC RELSUP personnel.

(2) Program and budget for ADT, ATP, IDTT and extended AT funding of NR USMC RELSUP units in coordination with COMNAVRESFOR.

c. Supported Commands

(1) Designate the command's AC senior supervisory chaplain to coordinate employment of NR USMC RELSUP with COMMARFORRES and the unit NR USMC RELSUP OIC.

(2) Establish manpower requirements on T/O. In coordination with COMMARFORRES Chaplain OSO and, per reference (g), both the designated Advocate and the designated Proponent for religious ministry in the Marine Corps, submit requests to add, delete, or modify existing NR USMC RELSUP manpower structure to Total Force Structure Division (CD&I TFSD).

(3) Submit requests for activation and mobilization for religious ministry support, including fiscal year Active Duty Operational Support, in accordance with references (b) and (d), and Active Duty for Special Work, in accordance with reference (h).

(4) Coordinate with COMMARFORRES regarding routine NR USMC RELSUP administrative matters including, but not limited to, Fitness Report and Counseling Records, Evaluation Report and Counseling Records, award recommendations, and other required administrative matters.

5. Administration and Logistics

a. The generation, collection or distribution of personally identifiable information (PII) and management of privacy sensitive information shall be in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, per references (i) and (j). Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited.

b. Records created as a result of this Bulletin shall be managed according to National Archives and Records

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Administration approved dispositions per reference (k) to ensure proper maintenance, use, accessibility and preservation, regardless of format or medium.

6. Reserve Applicability. This Order is applicable to the Marine Corps Total Force.

7. Cancellation Contingency. This Bulletin is canceled one year from the date of publication or when it is incorporated into another directive, whichever comes first.



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