



## UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

4TH FORCE SERVICE SUPPORT GROUP  
4400 DAUPHINE STREET  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70146-5400

GruO 1700.2

G1

28 Jul 03

### GROUP ORDER 1700.2

From: Commanding General  
To: Distribution List

Subj: SUBSTANCE ABUSE ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

Ref: (a) NAVMC 2931  
(b) MCO P1700.24B  
(c) MCO P1900.16

1. Purpose. To implement within the 4th FSSG the policies prescribed by the Commanding General, Marine Forces Reserve and the Commandant of the Marine Corps, including the procedures established in references (a) and (b) with respect to eliminating the use of illegal drugs as well as the abuse of alcohol and all types of drugs. This will include the establishment of detection, prevention, and rehabilitation programs for Marines and separation of drug offenders per reference (c).

2. Cancellation. GruO 5355.1C

3. Background

a. All Marines, regardless of pay grade, confirmed as having used or possessed illegal drugs will be processed for Administrative Separation for misconduct, by reason of Drug Abuse, in accordance with reference (c). Marines may also be disciplined if such action is appropriate.

(1) Self-referral for drug abuse constitutes confirmation of illegal drug abuse and requires a Marine to be processed for Administrative Separation.

(2) These Marines will be screened for drug dependency at a Substance Abuse Counseling Center (SACC) and, if diagnosed as drug or alcohol dependent will be referred to the Veterans Administration at time of separation.

b. The objective of the 4th FSSG in regards to alcohol abuse is to identify, treat, and return alcoholics to full duty and to eradicate the abuse of alcohol whenever possible. Alcohol is not an illegal substance. However, the abuse of alcohol is not acceptable nor desirable. Units are encouraged to do all possible to dispel the acceptability of the "hard drinking" Marine image. Actions considered to be alcohol abuse are well defined in reference (b).

#### 4. Action

a. Commanding Officers/Inspector-Instructors shall take action to ensure that the following substance abuse program measures are instituted:

(1) Appoint a Substance Abuse Control Officer (SACO) in writing. The SACO will be guided in the performance of duties by references (a) and (b).

(2) All Marines reporting in from PCS and leave will be tested within 72 hours of their arrival, in accordance with instructions given in Appendix E of reference (b), par li, using "00" as the collection premise code.

(3) Reserve component members shall be tested no later than 72 hours after the beginning of scheduled annual training.

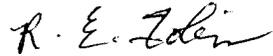
b. The Training Officer/NCO will ensure that education/information programs concerning drug abuse are included in the Troop Information Program/Quarterly Training Plan for the staff as required by references (a) and (b). The use of professional prevention/education staff from public and/or private alcohol and drug agencies/centers found in each community is highly recommended. Normally, such resources can be utilized at no cost to the unit, particularly if they are public agencies.

c. The administration of a program to identify and process drug abusers will be conducted in compliance with references (a) and (b).

d. The administration of a program, to identify, treat, and return abusers of alcohol to full duty or discharge will be conducted in accordance with references (a) and (b).

f. Only Commanding Officers and Medical Officers may direct that a urine sample be taken to test for drug presence, per reference (b).

5. Reserve Applicability. This Order is applicable to the Marine Corps Reserve.



R. E. TOBIN  
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION: A/B