



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDING OFFICER
U.S. NAVAL STATION GUANTANAMO BAY CUBA
PSC 1005 BOX 25 FPO AA 34009-0100

9 October 2024

Commanding Officer's Policy 5-24

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

Subj: HAZING

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 1610.3

1. Hazing is contrary to our Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. Hazing degrades and diminishes a Sailor's ability to function effectively. It destroys our members' confidence and trust in their shipmates, and is destructive to unit cohesion and combat readiness. Everyone shall be afforded the opportunity to be a productive and contributing member of our team and be free of hazing and its ill effects.

2. In accordance with reference (a), hazing is defined as a form of harassment that includes conduct through which service members, without a proper military or other governmental purpose, but with a nexus to military service, physically or psychologically injures or creates a risk of physical or psychological injury to service members for the purpose of: initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, change in status or position within, or a condition for continued membership in any military or DoD civilian organization. Hazing can be conducted through the use of electronic devices, including social media, or other forms of communication, as well as in person. Hazing need not involve physical contact among or between military members; it can be verbal or psychological in nature. Actual or implied consent to acts of hazing does not eliminate culpability of the perpetrator.

a. Hazing includes playing abusive or ridiculous tricks, threatening or offering violence or bodily harm to another, striking, branding, taping, tattooing, shaving, greasing, painting, requiring excessive physical exercise beyond what is required to meet standards, "pinning" or "tacking on" of insignia, or forcing or requiring the consumption of food, alcohol, drugs, or any other substance. This list is not all inclusive and is provided only as examples of hazing.

b. Hazing does not include properly directed command activities, administrative corrective measures, Extra Military Instruction, athletic events, command-authorized physical training, contests or competitions, or other similar activities that are authorized by the chain of command.

c. Reprisal against any victim or witness of hazing incidents is strictly prohibited.

3. It is the responsibility of everyone to ensure that hazing does not occur in any form, regardless of paygrade, and that the chain of command is made aware of any violation of this policy. **There can be no bystanders when it comes to hazing.**


M. R. STEPHEN