**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**
**COMMANDER, FLEET ACTIVITIES, OKINAWA**
**PSC 480 BOX 1100**
**FLEET POST OFFICE AP 96370-1100**

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20 AUG 2010

From: Commander, Fleet Activities, Okinawa
To: All Hands

Subj: SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY STATEMENT

1. Substance abuse and addiction continues to claim thousands of lives in our country, and affect the health and happiness of many more. Substance abuse violates Department of the Navy policy and undermines personal combat readiness, performance, reliability, and judgment. It undermines health, safety, discipline, and loyalty and increases the amount of lost work hours. It is incompatible with high standards of performance, military discipline, and destroys the Navy's efforts to instill pride, promote professionalism, and enhance personal excellence. Furthermore, it can result in criminal prosecution and discharge from the Navy under less than honorable conditions.

2. In our line of work, substance abuse is an extremely damaging behavior, affecting the safety of our operations and trust among our shipmates. I am committed to the Navy's zero tolerance of drug abuse. Anyone violating this policy will be disciplined in accordance with the Uniform Code of Military Justice. I insist that all managers, supervisors, Navy personnel, U.S. Civil Service, and Japanese National employees exercise positive, intrusive leadership and support for this policy. Encourage your co-workers and dependents to reject drug abuse and reinforce positive drug-free activities on the job, in the schools, and in the home.

3. The following steps will be taken when persons are found in violation of this policy:

a. Civilian Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) personnel, including juveniles, will be subject to debarment from the installation and face immediate removal from. Commander, Fleet Activities, Okinawa will cooperate with U.S. or Japanese civilian authorities in criminal prosecutions against SOFA personnel found in possession of, using, or distributing illegal drugs.

b. Military members will be prosecuted to the fullest extent possible processed for administrative separation.

c. Base residents will be subject to immediate removal from government quarters. Those awaiting base quarters will be removed from the waiting list.

4. The Navy's policy on alcohol is responsible use, in an appropriate place, at an appropriate time, and in appropriate quantity. Although alcohol is a legal substance, alcohol abuse is never acceptable and will never serve as an excuse for irresponsible behavior. The command will emphasize moderation and responsibility at all events, and shall deglamorize alcohol use during traditional ceremonies by forbidding those practices which may encourage personnel to drink irresponsibly. As ambassadors of the U.S., we have responsibility in the management of ourselves and all others to neither condone nor ignore behavior that brings discredit upon the U.S. or the Navy.

5. I need your full support on this. The days when commands would turn a Nelsonian eye to this behavior are - thankfully - behind us. Let's work together to ensure alcohol and drug abuse is not tolerated on our bases.

R. W. WEATHERS