



## Inappropriate Relationships

### What is Adultery?

Adultery contains three elements and is defined as (1) wrongful sexual intercourse, (2) between two individuals, when one of them is married to someone else, and (3) the conduct is prejudicial to good order and discipline in the armed forces or brings discredit upon the armed forces.

Reference: Manual for Courts-Martial (MCM)-2012, p. IV-103, para. 62, Article 134 (Adultery).

### Is Adultery Punishable Under the UCMJ? What if I'm Not Married?

Yes, it is punishable under Article 134 of the Uniformed Code of Military Justice. Per Article 134, adultery is applicable to married and single military members alike. The maximum punishment is a dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and confinement for 1 year.

Reference: MCM-2012, p. IV-104, para. 62.c.(4)e.

### Fraternization Defined

The Marine Corps Manual defines fraternization as professional and personal relationships between officer and enlisted, between officer and officer, or between enlisted and enlisted members that are unduly familiar and that do not respect differences in grade or rank. When prejudicial to good order and discipline, or of a nature that brings discredit on the Marine Corps, these relationships are prohibited.

References: Marine Corps Manual para. 1100.4, ALMAR 185/96, & MCM-2012, Article 134 (Fraternization), pp. IV-118/pp. A23-23.

### Examples of Fraternization

- Intimate/sexual relations
- Favoritism
- Dating
- Close personal friendships

Mission accomplishment is paramount in the Marine Corps. In order to accomplish the mission, it is integral that all Marines be present, healthy (mind and body), trained, equipped, and capable. The degradation of Marine and unit capabilities due to fraternization/adultery is not acceptable! These acts undermine the trust and camaraderie essential for smooth-running, tactical, effective units. It is imperative that all Marines know and adhere to the boundaries between professional relationships and fraternization. Military members who violate regulations or policies by having inappropriate relationships are subject to disciplinary action under Article 134. The maximum punishment is dismissal, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and confinement for 2 years.

### Bottom Line

Inappropriate relationships negatively impact the Marines involved, their command, and the Marine Corps as a whole. These acts dishonor our Corps' values, discredit individual integrity, erode unit cohesion, and negatively impact our war fighting abilities, jeopardizing mission success. It's not the right thing to do — DON'T DO IT!

**“The relationship between officers and enlisted should in no sense be that of superior and inferior nor that of master and servant, but rather that of teacher and scholar.”**

**13th Commandant of the Marine Corps  
LtGen John A. Lejeune**



### MFP Inspector General Contacts

**Hotline: (808) 477-1833**

**Email: [MARFORPAC\\_MFP\\_inspector@usmc.mil](mailto:MARFORPAC_MFP_inspector@usmc.mil)**

<b>Command IG:</b>	LtCol Art Behnke	808-477-8882
<b>Deputy CIG:</b>	Vacant	808-477-8512
<b>Inspections Chief:</b>	MGySgt Summer Fields	808-477-1832
<b>Investigator:</b>	Mr. Mark Beale	808-477-1833
<b>CIG Clerk:</b>	Cpl Manny Garcia	808-477-5808

[www.marforpac.marines.mil/CommandSections/CommandInspectorGeneral.aspx](http://www.marforpac.marines.mil/CommandSections/CommandInspectorGeneral.aspx)