

Homosexual Statement cases: ASN (M&RA) Defines "Substantial Investigation."

What can a command do when a Marine says he or she is a homosexual, but the command thinks the Marine is just saying it to avoid a service obligation or deployment by getting discharged? On 16 February 2000, ASN (M&RA) responded to questions concerning the permissible scope of investigation of a homosexual statement. According to the attached ASN (M&RA) memo, commanders may now question not only the Marine and others who heard the statement, but may question the immediate chain of command and any "individuals suggested by the member for interview" Approval from ASN (M&RA) is required only when a command wishes to expand the investigation beyond these limits.



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
(MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)
1000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000

16 February 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
ASSISTANT COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

SUBJECT: FURTHER GUIDANCE ON HOMOSEXUAL POLICY

There have been several questions brought to my attention which indicate the need to provide supplemental guidance to the "Final Guidance on Homosexual Policy" which I issued on December 16, 1999.

The following definition of "substantial investigation" should be included in the guidance of paragraph 2. "A substantial inquiry to determine whether a statement was made for the purpose of seeking separation from the military service in order to avoid a service obligation is an inquiry that extends beyond questioning the member who made the statement and/or a third party who reports that a member made a statement, individuals suggested by the member for interview, and the member's immediate supervisory chain of command."

Please ensure the widest possible dissemination of this further guidance.

Carolyn H. Becraft
CAROLYN H. BECRAFT