



MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA COMMANDING OFFICER REQUEST MAST POLICY STATEMENT



U.S. Navy Regulations (Articles 0820c and 1151.1) and the Marine Corps Manual (paragraph 2805) establish the Request Mast process, which I fully support. Request Mast includes the Service Member's right to communicate directly with the Commander (normally in person), and the requirement that the Commander considers the matter and personally responds to the petitioner.

The Request Mast Program preserves the right of military members of this Command to directly communicate grievances to, or seek assistance from, their Commanding Officers, up to and including the Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations West-Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton. MCO 1700.23G provides the authority for the Request Mast Program, outlines topics for which there are more appropriate methods of redress, and supports the rights and responsibilities of our Marines and Sailors.

This Policy Statement amplifies the importance of guidance provided within the references and guides the Request Mast process across Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Yuma. Service Members who, in good faith, wish to appear before a Commander will do so without fear of reprisal or prejudice to their interests.

Once a Marine or Sailor expresses a desire to submit a Request Mast petition, leaders at all levels should direct their efforts to getting the Marine or Sailor in front of the Commander. Attempts to delay or suppress a Request Mast by any Marine or Sailor are forbidden and may result in administrative or judicial action under UCMJ Article 92.

The desire of some Request Mast petitioners to meet directly with the Commanding Officer should not obscure the true focus of the process, which is resolution of the grievance. Individuals must consider that submitting a sealed Request Mast precludes the opportunity for subordinate Commanders to address the problem, and therefore should provide a compelling reason to do so. I have the utmost trust and confidence that subordinate Commanders can and will resolve the vast majority of valid grievances if given the opportunity; and I encourage MCAS Yuma Marines and Sailors to do the same.

Again, I fully support the right and process of Request Mast as a means to resolve grievances and reduce unnecessary stressors within the Command, thereby increasing overall readiness.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles E. Dudik'.

16 Jan 21

Date

Charles E. Dudik
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer
Marine Corps Air Station Yuma