



## UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HEADQUARTERS, U.S. MARINE CORPS FORCES, CENTRAL COMMAND (33621-5313)  
7115 SOUTH BOUNDARY BLVD  
MACDILL AFB, FL 33621

MARFORCENTO 5355.1

G-1  
MAY 14 2004

### U.S. MARINE CORPS FORCES, CENTRAL COMMAND ORDER 5355.1

From: Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific  
Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Central  
To: Distribution List

Subj: URINALYSIS TESTING POLICY FOR THE USCENTCOM AOR

Ref: (a) DOD Directive 1010.1  
(b) SECNAVINST 5300.28C  
(c) MCO P1700.24B

1. Purpose. To establish policy for urinalysis testing for USCENTCOM AOR. This policy does not replace existing urinalysis testing programs contained in the references.

2. Cancellation. None.

### 3. Background

a. Though difficult due to current operational requirements, urinalysis testing should be conducted in the USCENTCOM AOR. Military and Civilian personnel serving with U.S. Marines Forces Central Command will not possess, use, traffic in or distribute illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia. Accordingly, all MARCENT Units including deployed Units shall have an aggressive compulsory Urinalysis testing program.

b. It is even more critical during war that our Marines are mentally alert and physically fit. Considering statistical data on positive urinalyses on Marines returning from the USCENTCOM AOR and the availability of hashish and other illegal drugs from neighboring countries, it is paramount that a urinalysis program be maintained.

c. Acknowledging that there are challenges associated with conducting an effective urinalysis-testing program within the USCENTCOM AOR, they can be overcome with effective leadership and commitment to the program. Although not an inclusive list, the following significant challenges must be carefully prepared for:

(1) Chain-of-custody and documentation for all test bottles to and from the AOR.

(2) Mailing time of urine samples.

(3) Shelf life of samples under extreme heat conditions (2-3 days vice 7-10 days).

(4) Ensuring holding areas along the mailing routes are cool enough to maintain the integrity of the urine sample.

(5) Establishing a controlled environment to administer tests properly in combat areas.

#### 4. Policy

a. To deter all personnel from abusing drugs (including illegal and other illicit substances) and to assess the security, physical fitness, readiness, good order, and discipline, it is within the commander's discretion to conduct 100 percent urinalysis testing for all personnel deployed in the USCENTCOM AOR.

b. Individuals are subject to being re-tested upon redeployment to home station.

c. Refusal to submit a urine specimen is punishable as a violation of a General Order under Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). For civilian personnel, refusal may be the basis for appropriate adverse actions.

d. Any individual identified positive for an illegal substance will be relieved from duties within the USCENTCOM AOR and returned to their parent command or civilian agency for appropriate action.

5. Responsibilities. A commissioned officer at the BN or Sqdn level will be designated as the Unit Substance Abuse Control Officer (SACO). Additional personnel should be designated as alternate SACO's for future test coordination. The SACO and alternate will:

a. Become certified through an appropriate training course.

b. Ensure that urinalysis tests are properly conducted to conform to the provision of this instruction and the references.

(1) Coordinate with the appropriate Biochemical Test Coordinator (IBTC) for required support and scheduling for urinalysis testing.

(2) Monitor the urinalysis testing program within the USCENTCOM AOR.

(3) Perform administrative review of chain of custody documents and specimens before shipment of urine specimens to the Drug Testing Laboratory.

(4) Be present during testing and upon completion, deliver the specimens to IBTC.

## 6. Procedures

a. Effective immediately, urinalysis testing will be conducted in the USCENTCOM AOR. The SACO will coordinate with IBTC for required supply/equipment support and special instructions for conducting joint urinalysis testing.

b. The SACO will establish a team and will coordinate with MARCENT G-1 for necessary travel orders, transportation, and travel clearances. At a minimum, the team will consist of a certified SACO and one observer. If female personnel are to be tested, one of the observers must be a female.

c. In the absence of the SACO, an alternate SACO will coordinate urinalysis testing for the command. Alternate SACOs who participate in deployments will be the primary source to conduct any urinalysis during deployment. Prior to deployment, the alternate SACOs will be designated in writing, review urinalysis procedures, inventory the urinalysis kit and palletize the urinalysis kit for transport to the USCENTCOM AOR. All SACO's will strictly adhere to Standing Operating Procedures during the conduct of their duties and be especially attentive to maintaining the chain-of-custody of specimens collected during a urinalysis.

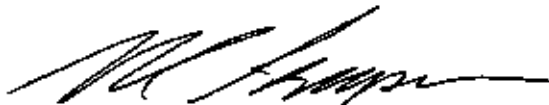
d. Standing operating procedures for the conduct of urinalysis testing and chain of custody of specimens are provided in references.

e. The IBTC will notify MARCENT (G-1) of any specimen testing positive for drug use. The SACO will forward these results to the appropriate parent command or civilian agency for appropriate action.

f. Commanders will ensure that individuals involved in Class "A" and "B" mishaps are immediately tested for illegal substance.

MARFORPACO/MARFORCENTO 5355.1

7. Reserve Applicability. This Order is applicable to the Marine Corps Reserve.



W. C. GREGSON

DISTRIBUTION: LIST I/LIST II/LIST/III/LIST IV/LIST V/LIST VI/LIST XII

Copy to: LIST VII A (MHM)/ALL MARDETS AFLOAT, USPACOM