

Policy Statement on Social Media



Marines and Sailors of 5th ANGLICO are personally responsible for all content they publish or share on social media especially since the lines between Marines personal and professional lives often blur in the online space. Any inappropriate online behavior that is detrimental to good order and discipline, or violates the disclosure of sensitive, classified, or personal identifiable information (PII), may be subject to disciplinary action under Article 92 of the Uniformed Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Inappropriate online conduct may also violate other state or Federal laws and may expose service members to civil liability. Participate online at your own risk, and take personal responsibility for your comments, your username and any information provided.

Marines and Sailors who believe they have been subject to inappropriate online conduct and who would like to maintain their privacy are encouraged to report the misconduct to their chaplain or a Victims Legal Counsel. Marines or Sailors who have witnessed prohibited conduct are encouraged to report the activity to their Chain of Command. Marines and Sailors are also reminded that when information is published on the internet, they lose control of its intended audience and message.

The Marine Corps defines an unofficial internet post as *“any content about the Marine Corps or related to the Marine Corps that are posted on any internet site by Marines in an unofficial and personal capacity.”* Content includes, but is not limited to, personal comments, photographs video, and graphics. Internet sites include social networking sites, blogs, forums, photo and video-sharing sites, and other sites not owned, operated, or controlled by the Marine Corps or Department of Defense.

Marines and Sailors of 5th ANGLICO are encouraged to responsibly share the Navy and Marine Corps story through unofficial internet posts while exercising proper judgment, discretion, and operational security. I encourage to quote, republish, or share content from the official 5th ANGLICO social media pages on our own blogs and websites. Marines and Sailors will never engage in any online activity that could be considered lewd, obscene, threatening, discriminatory, racist, or demeaning to any individual or group. Existing orders and the UCMJ have long prohibited sexual or other harassment, fraternization, retaliation, reprisal, and hazing. We do not allow comments that suggest or encourage illegal activity. This behavior undermines the credibility of the Navy and Marine Corps as the most professional warfighting organization in the world and is not aligned with our core values.

Marines and Sailors of 5th ANGLICO are rightfully proud of our history and warfighting legacy. The internet provides a tremendous opportunity to tell our story, but also creates mission vulnerabilities if used inappropriately. We are encouraged to professionally and respectfully correct errors and misrepresentations made about the Marine Corps. Marines and Sailors must continue to exercise sound judgement and discretion when operating in the online domain.

Thank you for your support of 5th ANGLICO.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. R. Ashton'.

M. R. ASHTON
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer
5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company