

AFFIDAVIT

AFFIANT says of his/her own personal knowledge:

What is your opinion of Maj Scarselli as a Marine Officer? As the Provost Marshal? Please explain in as great of detail possible.

Maj Scarselli is a fine Officer of Marines. He is truly concerned for his Marines, their development as professionals and people while, never losing sight of our missions. He never accepted the status quo and instilled that in the Marine that worked for him. He always encouraged his Marines to think outside the box to develop creative solutions to accomplish the mission. As a Provost Marshal he was genuinely concerned for the safety and welfare of the installation's inhabitants and always made decisions to ensure they stayed safe. He is very forward thinking always aware of how we can better plan for the future or the next individual who would fill our job. It would be a travesty to cut short his career for this ridiculous case. I don't think he is perfect but, I do consider him as a mentor and I have learned a lot from him in my short career.

What is your opinion regarding Mr. Gill's interview/investigation technique and process (please elaborate)? Was the IG investigation objective in your opinion or subjective? Explain.

At best it is very flawed and grossly inaccurate; at worst it may be an attempt by an overzealous IG using the testimony of bitter SSgt to put another feather in his cap. Over the course of several months the IG conducted hundreds of interviews starting with the PFC's and LCpl's and working right up the chain of command. It is my opinion when this investigation started Mr. Gill was determined to find something to pin on Maj Scarselli and didn't care who or what it was. The whole thing is hearsay and several of its 'findings' have already been proven wrong or will be by getting sworn statements vice incorrect interpretations of what an interviewee said. If in the investigation Mr. Gill claims that an individual stated one thing and that individual signs a sworn statement to the contrary; how can you take the investigation seriously? Did he just make a mistake and right 'did' instead of 'did not'? That would be one hell of a misinterpretation, especially considering the recommended adjudication.

It was extremely frustrating for me, because I have direct knowledge of several of the accusations in the 'investigation'. It never occurred the Inspector General that the Deputy Provost Marshal and second ranking Marine in the unit might have some information to corroborate, substantiate or dispute many of the allegations brought against the Marines at the unit. Really? He couldn't trouble himself to send me an affidavit similar to this one and have me fill it out, sign it and send it back. Would that be too hard?

As an MP and an Officer I have some familiarity with how an investigation should be conducted. In my opinion this investigation was very flawed and quickly transformed into a witch hunt. I have heard scuttlebutt from a couple Marines that in several interviews Mr. Gill bragged openly and proudly about how he was going to 'take down' the Provost Marshal. I have also heard that he made several derogatory statements about the character of Captain Knobel to several of his senior enlisted that would have directly compromised his authority and command. If any bit of this is true, this is not the professional, impartial and unbiased behavior that one expects from an Inspector General of an installation conducted a proper investigation in search of the truth. Once Maj Scarselli's and the rest of the Marine's cases are completed I truly believe that there should be another

Initial: *JB*

investigation into the conduct and behavior of the Inspector General and his staff during this investigation. Re-interview the parties properly and see what the truth is and what his opinion was.

I am not sure you could investigate any unit in the Marine Corps, holding it to the standard applied in this case, and similar evidence to bring just as ridiculous charges against them. Many of these claims are absurd. Seriously hazing? It was never allowed or condoned by Maj Scarselli, MGySgt Humbertson or Myself. What are you supposed to do with a Marine that you cannot trust to stand the Gate or Patrol in a vehicle? We had them do whatever busy work we could find for them; is that a crime now? Since when is filing papers, buffing floors, police calling, and cleaning heads from 0730 to 1700 with a break for lunch considered hazing?

Furthermore, I believe he had the wool pulled over Mr. Gill's eyes by SSgt Baker and his testimony. He pulled the wool over our eyes as well. Honestly, when I worked at PMO I thought SSgt Baker was very good SNCO that had lots of potential. He would aggressively attack tasks and was often trusted with the most difficult assignments. He helped straighten up the kennels and nearly singlehandedly planned our first Mess Night. However, I have since learned that he stole the AC units from the kennels one evening when he was drinking. Which we wouldn't have recovered if Maj Scarselli didn't order SSgt Baker to find and return them. Additionally, since I have transferred, I have had a couple Marines inform me that several of the K9 Marines that worked for him have claimed that he was physically abusive and had many of them come in after hours when he was intoxicated. Had I known his off duty demons were so severe I would have attempted to get him help a long time ago.

What is your knowledge regarding adultery allegations against MGySgt Humbertson and other Marines and Maj Scarselli's duty or failure to investigate those allegations?

I remember vaguely MGySgt Gomez looking into SSgt Baker for allegedly having an affair with a Sgt Garcia. Supposedly, Sgt Garcia was drunk at a party and her neighbor wanted them to turn the noise down and Garcia made some statement about sleeping with SSgt Baker. I believe that was denied by all parties and dropped. Don't remember the details on that it was a few years ago. That may have been before Maj Scarselli's time as well.

I know of no allegations of adultery against MGySgt Humbertson and would be surprised if any such allegations were true. There were a couple of alleged adulterous affairs at PMO that I remember. One occurred while I was gone and involved Sgt Elestad and Cpl Crowder's wife. I do not believe there was ever any action taken as a result of denial of the affair or refusal to make any statement. I think MGySgt Gomez looked into that allegation.

There was another allegation against Sgt Ellestad but, can not remember who he had the alleged affair with. I think it was a K-9 Marine's wife. MGySgt Humbertson wasn't able to corroborate the allegation, and they both denied it adamantly.

Also, Lt Daly (Civilian) was accused by a SSgt of having an affair with his wife. MGySgt Humbertson, spoke with the SSgt got his story. Then he spoke with Human resources and asked what we could do. They said it wasn't illegal like in the Military but, if it disrupted the unit you could essentially order him to stop and then censure and fire him if he did not. MGySgt Humbertson, told the SSgt to bring in whatever evidence he had and he would take a look at it. I don't believe he ever

Initial: JB

showed up. Lt Daly denied it and the MGySgt and I ordered him to stop contact with the wife.

There just isn't a lot you can do with allegations. We couldn't use CID to investigate they were swamped with far more important, assault, domestic assault, burglary, narcotics and the occasional rape case. I believe we gave every allegation its due diligence and if we were presented with evidence it was handled properly. For instance, SSgt Barnes was NJP'd for adultery way back in 2007. We had hard evidence and I believe when confronted with that he admitted it, he got restriction and lost pay as a result.

Adultery was clearly addressed in the PM's Philosophy and I know he personally told every Marine that joined the unit that it was not acceptable.

What is your knowledge regarding any loyalty oaths issued by Maj Scarselli?

Maj Scarselli never made anyone take any kind of loyalty oath. The only thing I heard him say to the Marines about the investigation was at a Staff meeting that we called to officially inform all of them that we as a PMO were under investigation by the IG's office. At that meeting he told the Marines that it was a complete investigation of allegations into PMO (he didn't know what the allegations were). Additionally, he made it clear that they will cooperate with what the IG requests, when he needs a particular Marine we will ensure that that Marine is off duty for his interview and is well aware of when and where he needed to be. He then specifically stated that you will not ask them about what they were asked or what they knew and what they spoke to the IG about. He told them to cooperate when they get interviewed, answer all the questions honestly, because we have nothing to hide. 'This to shall pass' he said.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli attempting to influence or intimidate any Marine as part of the IG investigation conducted?

He never attempted to influence the investigation. What I stated before was his policy and I never saw him attempt to do anything to disrupt or influence the investigation.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli debriefing Marines after any IG interviews? Please explain.

I have no knowledge of him ever debriefing Marines after their interviews. It didn't happen.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli upholding height and weight standards at PMO? Rifle qualifications?

He put it in his Provost Marshal's Philosophy, 'The only thing worse than a fat MP is a crooked MP.' He did his part in upholding the height and weight standards. Though I thought those programs were the responsibility of the Company and Battalion. So if he is getting charged with not upholding the standards shouldn't they? I've heard that part of this allegation is that SSgt Brookins was outside the height and weight standards. But, if you look back to March or whenever the Battalion underwent its IG inspection, they weighed and taped him and he was found to be within standards. I am not saying that Brookins in anyway is a poster Marine. But, when they taped him he was within standards. Should we have taped him every week?

The first year I was at PMO we were exempt from rifle qualifications. When I returned from deployment it was required and we sent Marines every month. Additionally, to help avoid Marines not being able to get to the range we planned a rifle and pistol range at Barstow's ranges. We planned all of this through Battalion with no complaint or question at the time. Maj Scarselli in many staff meetings made his intent clear that, every Marine must get to the rifle and pistol ranges. We did everything we could to see that intent carried out.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli taking a PFT around the time period of December 08?

Maj Scarselli took a PFT in December of 2008. I was present for the running of it along with MGySgt Humbertson and a few of other SNCO's. I didn't take it for score as I already took my PFT in Iraq in late July or August. I pretty much just paced and kept time for them. SSgt Baker was the one who monitored the PFT.

What is your knowledge regarding Maj Scarselli tolerating or promoting the hazing of Marines at PMO?

NEVER HAPPENED! I have never seen Maj Scarselli tolerate anything that could be perceived as hazing. This is another issue he addressed directly in his Philosophy. Additionally, he always ensured, during promotions, that no Marines put chevrons on with out there backings, so they couldn't get 'snakebites' from them. He also, gave me a verbal counseling for not ensuring I did the same during a promotion ceremony I conducted, when a 1stSgt promoting one of our FAP's didn't put the backings on before slapping his collar. On another occasion, the Major, the MGySgt and I were going to the chow hall and saw a Marine standing at Parade rest in the sun outside a company office near the chow hall. We came out and saw the Marine standing in the same place Maj Scarselli went to him and then to the Marine's 1stSgt to get him out of the hot summer sun. The Marine was UA for an extended period of time and was told to stand there by his 1stSgt. He proceeded to tell the 1stSgt he can't do this kind of crap because it is hazing. He never tolerated hazing, never.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli doing MCMAP training with SSgt Baker at any time? What is your knowledge of SSgt Baker's MCMAP qualifications?

I did have to cover the morning meeting for a week or two, while they were out doing MCMAP. I only saw them come back in from training. I assume they did MCMAP training but, didn't actually see them do it. I think SSgt Baker is a Black Belt instructor. Thought he got that qualification when he was on the drill field.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli trying to arrange for a PMO/Big Bear Cabin trip?

I remember a couple of us wanting to get an 'all hands' trip together earlier this year sometime. We were thinking about renting out the MCCA cabins. I don't think we could work out the logistics of it and it never came to fruition.

What is your knowledge regarding how family nights were conducted? Were proper customs and courtesies regarding ranks observed? Were the events professional?

While I was deployed, PMO had a terrible rash of 5-7 DUI's from any number of individuals throughout the unit. So, Maj Scarselli, MGySgt Humbertson came up with family night in an attempt to give the Marines

Initial: YAB

something else to do besides go out in town get hammered and drive around. They came up with a weekly or biweekly family night where all hands were invited, Marines with families could bring their kids and everybody have a good time without doing something stupid out in town. Proper customs and courtesies were observed at family nights. They were always observed anyway. That is one of Maj Scarselli's pet peeves. He and the MGySgt have counseled countless Marines for not observing proper customs and courtesies; I don't know why anyone would think it would be any different during family night. The events were conducted in a professional manner upholding the traditions of the Marine Corps. We grilled hot dogs and burgers, played games and drank some beer. It never got out of hand and all the Marines always observed the proper customs and courtesies.

What is your knowledge regarding Maj Scarselli allowing underage Marines at PMO to drink alcohol?

He never allowed underage Marines to drink. We tried once to get a CG level waiver for our underage Marines at Mess Night but, it was turned down and the underage Marines were not allowed to drink. He addressed this issue with every underage Marine that checked into the unit.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli fraternizing with any enlisted Marines at PMO?

Maj Scarselli was living with MGySgt Humbertson. He told me one day and I later observed it. When they moved in MGySgt was going through a difficult time in his Marriage and needed an inexpensive place to stay. They found a house and rented it. We had a frank discussion about it and I expressed some concern. However, after the discussion and having worked with them both while they were living together I can state that this did not effect the good order and discipline of the unit and in no way degraded the professional working relationship between the Major and the MGySgt. I don't believe it was well known amongst the Marines and I never saw it in anyway effect the unit in a negative manner. Besides that I never saw the Major Fraternize with the enlisted Marines at PMO.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli ever borrowing money from Marines at PMO?

I have no knowledge of Maj Scarselli having borrowed money from Marines at PMO.

What is your knowledge of the hiring of a civilian by the name of Robert Lemmons and his access to the 29 Palms base? What is your knowledge concerning what access to base Maj Scarselli may have given this individual? Please explain.

I don't know who that is or what it is in reference to.

What other information would you like to communicate regarding Maj Scarselli?


Maj Scarselli is not the perfect Marine Officer. But, he is a damn good one. Yes, he made decisions that I would not have made. I probably wouldn't have had Family Night every week. Was it unorthodox? Yes. Did it work? Absolutely, DUI's dropped off after they instituted family night. It certainly didn't upset the good order and discipline of the unit and did increase the morale. I wouldn't have moved in with the MGySgt. But, what was he going to do favor him over the other MGySgt at PMO (there is only one)? Write him a better FitRep? I am fairly certain MGySgt Humbertson did not care about his fitness report.

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I wouldn't have done it but, it in no way negated their professional relationship. From what I have seen working alongside him he is a very committed, dedicated and creative Officer who has given everything he has to the Corps. He shows genuine care and concern for his Marines health and welfare. We are far stronger with him then without him.

I swear that the above official statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Capt Thomas J. Beck
Print Name


Signature

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Date