



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
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IN REPLY REFER TO
3000
CDC
24 Jun 19

CDC POLICY MEMORANDUM 4.3

From: Chief Defense Counsel of the Marine Corps
To: Distribution List

Subj: MARINE CORPS DEFENSE SERVICES ORGANIZATION AND OFFICE OF THE CHIEF DEFENSE COUNSEL LOGOS

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1H

Encl: (1) DSO Logo
(2) Office of the Chief Defense Counsel Logo

1. **Purpose.** Establish an understanding of the two current Defense Services Organization (DSO) logos.

2. **Discussion.** Organizational emblems or logos have existed in the Marine Corps since 1776 when the first emblem was used.¹ However, the first use of military emblems can be traced back to 1600 BC when units would display emblems on their shields or helmets. Today, nearly all professional military organizations have emblems and logos which represent the characteristics, history, and ideals of their respective organizations. We are no different.

a. **Defense Services Organization Logo.** The DSO logo was adopted in 2012. Please see Encl (1). The four points of the compass represent the four Regions of the DSO (National Capital, Eastern, Western, and Pacific). The scales of justice represent the military justice system and our Organization's job within the system to protect and defend the rights of our clients. The Eagle, Globe, and Anchor is meant to show that, while it is our solemn duty to zealously represent our clients, we are all United States Marines and are therefore expected to hold ourselves to that standard in and out of the courtroom. Finally, the DSO motto, "Marines Defending Marines". This signifies that when Marines find themselves in need of legal counsel, they will always be represented by a fellow Marine.

b. **Office of the Chief Defense Counsel of the Marine Corps (CDC) Logo.** The Office of the CDC's logo was adopted in February 2019 after a unanimous decision by all Defense Marines at the DSO-Wide training at MCRD San Diego, CA. Please see Encl (2). The Griffin is a mythological creature with the head and wings of an eagle, and the body of a lion. According to lore the Griffin were tasked with guarding the most precious treasures. This is a fitting logo for the Office of the CDC in that our Organization is tasked with guarding the rights of our clients.

¹ Pursuant to Ref (a), only insignia for aeronautical components are required to be forwarded to the Chief of Naval Operations for approval prior to adoption and subsequent changes. All other units or activities are not required to obtain the approval of the Marine Corps History Division. In consideration of the association developed by previous members, established insignia should not be altered capriciously.

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Accordingly, our Griffin is clutching the United States Constitution, which symbolizes our solemn duty to defend the rights of our clients.

3. Conclusion. This CDC Policy Memo is effective immediately.

W.N.PIGOTT
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Distribution:
SJA to CMC
Legal Chief of the Marine Corps
All Marine Corps SJAs
LSSS OICs
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All Members of the DSO



ENCLOSURE (1)



ENCLOSURE (2)