U.S. Marine Corps: Ethos of Integrity and Honor

- The overwhelming majority of American service members, dependents and civilian employees are law abiding, honorable and respectful. Our service members are friendly, responsible and active members of our host community, everywhere they are.
- We reinforce responsible behavior and support our positive relationships with the communities we live in.
- Service members have excellent relations with our Japanese neighbors and we encourage continued engagement in the thousands of off base community relations events that transform Okinawa from a duty station to a home.
- The Marine Corps institutes and actively participates in numerous base support and community outreach programs to maintain mutual trust and respect between Marines and the local community. Marines in Japan participate in more than 2,500 community relations events throughout the year, from annual festivals, sporting events, beach cleanups, music festivals, and more in order to build and maintain relationships.
- We protect and defend - Service members volunteer and accept the privilege of military service taking an oath to protect and defend the United States, Japan, our other allies, friends and those in need.
- The Uniform Code of Military Justice reinforces and mandates a high standard of conduct.
- We honor our host nation by ensuring the Okinawa Prefectural Police have access to, and jurisdiction over accused off duty military service members in every case, per the SOFA agreement.
- Japanese and Okinawan lives have been saved by service members, and we always stand ready to help our community.

According to the Okinawa Prefectural Police (OPP) the U.S. SOFA per capita crime rate is less than half the crime rate in Okinawa. We are succeeding in minimizing criminal activity.

"As reported in the press, the number of incidents/accidents involving U.S. Forces personnel recorded last year was the lowest since Okinawa's reversion to Japan. I would like to take this opportunity to appreciate the relevant organizations for their efforts."

-As stated in the 23rd Cooperative Working Team Meeting

CRIMINAL OFFENDER RATE COMPARISON

Although total numbers of penal code offenses involving Marines are very low, we are still not satisfied. We remain committed to reinforcing continued positive behavior.

Our most valuable relationships are with our local community - we will continue to do our utmost to keep our community safe. We appreciate your support and continued understanding.

(Data obtained from Okinawa Prefectural Police http://www.pref.okinawa.jp/toukeika/index.html)