

GIKISHO NO.19
September 9, 2014

Lieutenant General John E. Wissler
Okinawa Area Coordinator
III Marine Expeditionary Force

Atsushi Sakima
Mayor
Ginowan City

Protest and Request: Enforcement of Discipline on Military Service Members

The city received reports from the Okinawa Defense Bureau on September 7 regarding a vehicular accident involving a staff sergeant affiliated with MCAS Futenma. According to the reports, the driver's blood alcohol levels were eight times the legal limit at the time of the accident for which the driver was consequently arrested for on September 6.

There have been 2 accidents in August and 1 in May, involving US military members who were under the influence of alcohol. A hit-and-run was reported in July, and another service member was arrested in April for illegal possession of weapons. The city is aware of 6 accidents and/or legal cases since April involving US service members.

The city has made countless requests towards the United States military to enforce discipline upon service members. However, the recurrence of these events leads us to question the efforts put forth by the United States military authorities to prevent such incidents.

Thus, we strongly protest the accidents and legal matters involving the US service members, and demand strict enforcement of order and discipline.