

Survivor's Guide

A Guide For Military Sexual Assault Victims

Service 
Women's 
Action 
Network 

DEAR SURVIVOR

Sexual violence continues to plague our military force, and our nation must break this cycle of abuse. Our organization will never stop its efforts to remove the stain of sexual assault from our ranks so that women and men can operate in a healthy, safe environment when they say the oath to serve this nation. When servicemembers or veterans experience sexual violence, they deserve expert, compassionate care, and most of all, they deserve justice.

If you are a victim of sexual assault, you have experienced one of the most traumatic events you will ever endure. This survivors guide is a resource for survivors to use in the most challenging moments. Sexual assault is a traumatic experience, and often victims feel they have nowhere to turn. At SWAN, we are dedicated to bringing the information to victims and holding offenders accountable for their crimes. This survivor guide aims to create simple, step-by-step information for survivors to receive the pertinent information needed to seek justice and the help they need to start their recovery journey.

With All Respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DB', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Deshauna Barber
CEO, Service Women's Action Network

WHAT TO DO IF YOU'VE BEEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED

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TEAR OUT FOR QUICK REFERENCE



Get to a safe place



**Call 911 or contact someone
for help**



**Do not shower, drink, eat,
go to the bathroom, brush
your teeth, douche, or
change your clothes**



Do not clean up the scene



Get medical attention



**Write down and record
everything**

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TEAR OUT FOR QUICK REFERENCE

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SEXUAL ASSAULT

WHAT IS SEXUAL ASSAULT?

According to the Department of Defense (DoD), the term “sexual assault” is defined as intentional sexual conduct characterized by use of force, threats, intimidation, or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent. The term includes a broad category of sexual offenses consisting of the following specific Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) offenses: rape, sexual assault, aggravated sexual contact, abusive sexual contact, forcible sodomy (forced oral or anal sex), stalking or attempts to commit these acts.

WHAT IS CONSENT?

Sexual consent is a voluntary, positive agreement between participants to engage in sexual activity. It is also permission for something to happen or agree to do something. Consent has not been given in the absence of a clear, positive agreement. Verbal communication before engaging in sex helps to explain consent. Communicating verbally before engaging in sexual activity is essential. Although it may be awkward, talking about your own and your partner’s sexual desires, needs, and limitations provides a foundation for a positive experience. Consent must be clear for each participant at every stage of a sexual encounter. The absence of “no” should not be understood to mean there is consent. Consent may also be revoked at any time by any participant. Quid Pro Quo is a form of harassment that is not allowed in the military. Quid Pro Quo refers to conditions placed on a person’s career or terms of employment in return for sexual favors. This is not a form of consent and highly frowned upon.

Consent must be clear for each participant at every stage of a sexual encounter. The absence of “no” should not be understood to mean there is consent.

The DoD defines consent as words or overt acts indicating a freely given agreement to the sexual conduct at issue by a competent person. An expression or lack of consent through words or conduct means there is no consent. Lack of verbal or physical resistance or submission resulting from the use of force, the threat of force, or placing another person in fear does not constitute consent. A current or previous dating relationship by itself or the manner of dress of the person involved with the accused

in the sexual conduct at issue shall not constitute consent. There is no consent where the person is sleeping or incapacitated, due to alcohol or drugs, or mental incapacity. There is no consent when the person is under legal age.

DATE RAPE DRUGS

Common “date rape drugs” include Rohypnol (known as “Roofies”), GHB (known as “G” or “Easy Lay”), and Ketamine (known as “Special K” or “Bump”). Many of these drugs are odorless and colorless when put into a drink. Even over-the-counter medications, prescription medications, alcohol, and combinations of these substances can be used to facilitate sexual assault. Signs that you may have been drugged include:

- Feeling more intoxicated than your usual response to the amount of alcohol you consumed. Or you feel intoxicated, and you had NO alcohol, but did drink something.
- Suddenly getting sick or throwing up soon after having a drink of any kind.
- Having trouble breathing or moving.
- Feeling confused when you wake up, experiencing memory lapse and cannot account for a period of time.

If you feel you were at risk at being drugged or uncertain as to whether or not you were drugged, the best way to know is to be tested.

LGBTQ

Sexual assault affects all communities including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer and questioning people (LGBTQ). Research suggests that rates of sexual assault may be higher in lesbian, gay, or bisexual people. But homophobia can prevent people who are LGBTQ from speaking out about a sexual assault. It is important to remember that sexual assault is an abuse of power not a question of sexuality.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE JUST BEEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED

If you have been, or think you have been, sexually assaulted:

- **Get to a safe place.**
- **Contact someone who can help you:** a friend, the police (911), a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) or a Sexual Assault

Prevention & Response Victim Advocate (SAPR VA). Contact DoD Safe Helpline for live, one-on-one support and information. The service is confidential, anonymous, secure, and available worldwide, 24/7 by click, call or text — providing victims with the help they need anytime, anywhere:

- Safe Helpline: 1-877-995-5247
- SafeHelpline.org
- **Do not shower, drink, eat, go to the bathroom, brush your teeth, douche, or change your clothes even though this may feel like a natural reaction.** These activities destroy significant physical evidence in the event that you decide to complete an Unrestricted Report (discussed on page 12) that will allow the prosecution of the person who assaulted you. However, if you cannot refrain from urinating before seeking help, urinate into a clean glass jar. If you must change your clothes before seeking help, place them (including undergarments) in a brown PAPER bag. Placing clothing or all other possible pieces of evidence in a plastic bag will chemically render them useless during evidence collection procedures.
- **Do not clean up the scene** where the assault occurred or move anything the offender may have touched.
- **Get medical attention.** You may have hidden injuries and may want to explore options for preventing pregnancy or sexually transmitted diseases.
- **Write down or record everything** that you remember happening, with as much detail as possible. This can help with your healing process and in any legal action you might decide to take. This is also extremely helpful if you choose to report immediately to law enforcement. The process of reporting will involve questions calling for specific detail about the sexual assault. The more detailed information you can provide about your experience, the stronger the case may become against the perpetrator.

If you have just been sexually assaulted:

- **Get to a safe place.**
- **Contact someone who can help you**
- **Do not shower, drink, eat, go to the bathroom, brush your teeth, douche, or change your clothes**
- **Do not clean up the scene**
- **Get medical attention**
- **Write down or record everything**

KEY OFFICES AND PERSONNEL

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE OFFICE (SAPRO)

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) is responsible for oversight of the DoD's sexual assault policy. SAPRO works hand-in-hand with the Services and the civilian community to develop and implement innovative prevention response programs.

INSTALLATION SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE (SAPR) OFFICE

Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)

The SARC serves as the single point of contact for integrating and coordinating sexual assault victim care from an initial report of sexual assault, through disposition and resolution of issues related to your health and well-being. The installation SARC may be a civilian or a military member. Among their responsibilities, the SARC is responsible for ensuring a victim support system provides 24 hours a day/seven days a week sexual assault response capability for all victims that fall under the SAPR program within his/her designated area of responsibility. The SARC also supervises the SAPR VA and Volunteer Victim Advocates (VVA).

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response VA (SAPR VA) and Volunteer Victim Advocate (VVA)

SAPR VAs and VVAs are responsible for crisis intervention, referral, and ongoing non-clinical support, including providing you information on available options and resources to allow you to make an informed decision about your case. VA services continue until you state that support is no longer needed.

SAPR VAs are GS-11 civilian employees who work full-time in the SAPR office. The SAPR selects only active-duty military personnel and DoD civilian employees to serve as VVAs. SAPR VAs and VVAs do not provide counseling or other professional services to a victim. Appropriate agencies will provide clinical, legal, and other professional services. However, SAPR VAs and VVAs may accompany you, at your request, during investigative interviews and medical examinations.

Communications between you and the SARC, SAPR VAs, and VWAs are privileged under Military Rules of Evidence (M.R.E.) 514 in cases arising under the UCMJ if the communication is made to advise you or provide you assistance.

SAPR Program Eligibility

After you notify a SAPR office that you desire SAPR services, the SAPR office will determine program eligibility.

- Active duty members and their dependents 18 and older, and Reserve component members in Title 10 status at the time of the assault are eligible to make a Restricted or Unrestricted Report discussed further in this Guide.
- DoD Civilian employees' dependents 18 years of age and older when stationed or performing duties outside the continental United States (OCONUS), and U.S. citizen DoD contractor personnel when authorized to accompany the Armed Forces in a contingency operations OCONUS and their employees who are U.S. citizens are eligible to make an Unrestricted Report.
- DoD civilian employees CONUS and OCONUS will have both reporting options of Restricted and Unrestricted Reporting. DoD civilians will have access to complete SAPR services that are offered to service members, but this does not include additional medical entitlements or legal services to which they are not already authorized by law or policy

SAPR services are not provided for victims who are assaulted by their spouse, same-sex domestic partner, or unmarried intimate partner, or military dependents who are 17 years old or younger. However, you may be entitled to SVC services or other services.

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INVESTIGATIONS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES

Each branch of service has a Military Criminal Investigation Organization (MCIO): the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command (CID) for the Army; the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) for the Navy and Marines; the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) for the Air Force and Space Force; and the Coast Guard Investigative Service (CGIS) for the Coast Guard. The MCIOs are removed from command channels and function as independent, centralized organizations to ensure unbiased investigations. Generally, the MCIOs will investigate major offenses; Security Forces or Master-at-Arms usually investigate minor offenses. However, the MCIOs will typically investigate all allegations of sexual assault within its jurisdiction, regardless of the severity of the allegation.

DoD policy also requires each military service to maintain a Special Victims Investigation and Prosecution (SVIP) capability comprised of specially trained MCIO investigators, judge advocates, paralegals, and victim/witness assistance personnel in support of victims of rape, sexual assault, child sex assault, and other crimes of serious violence.

The National Guard Bureau's (NGB) Office of Complex Investigations (OCI) was established in 2012 to conduct administrative investigations into allegations of sexual assault that are not criminal in nature and are conducted only when criminal law enforcement entities, such as MCIOs or local civilian law enforcement, have declined or do not have jurisdiction to investigate and a National Guard nexus has been identified.

SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMS (SAFE)

A SAFE is typically a medical/forensic exam that includes a physical exam, genital exam, and collection of swabs and samples to preserve evidence of a sexual assault. Trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) or physicians perform the exams and provide immediate medical care by treating injuries and offering information about sexually transmitted infections and pregnancy. You can decline any portion of the exam if you choose.

Before the examination, the SANE will ask you detailed questions about the assault. This will be difficult for you, but is necessary to ensure

proper evidence collection. The SANE will examine you from head to toe, note any injuries and photograph them. An essential part of the examination includes the use of a colposcope, or camera with a telephoto lens. This equipment can magnify an area of the body and record pictures of tiny injuries that are often not seen by the naked eye. This allows the SANE to carefully examine your genitalia, externally and internally, visualize and document any injuries. To check for internal injuries and to collect evidence, the SANE will insert an instrument called a speculum into your vagina and with the use of the colposcope or camera, visually inspect your vaginal walls and cervix for injuries. The nurse will also collect secretions of vaginal fluids and test for the presence of sperm or semen.

A SANE exam includes:

- Questions about the assault
- Photographs of injuries
- Internal and external examination
- Pregnancy test
- The option of a “morning-after pill”
- The option of medication to prevent STDs

A pregnancy test is done but the test only indicates if you were pregnant at the time of the assault. A pregnancy test can be accurate five days after conception. A follow-up test is necessary to determine if the rape resulted in pregnancy. After a pregnancy test is performed, if you are not pregnant you will be asked if you would like to take the “morning-after pill” (also called Plan B) to prevent pregnancy. The morning-after pill is a powerful female hormone used to keep a fertilized egg from being released by the ovary and implanted on the walls of the uterus. This method is most effective if taken within seventy-two hours of unprotected intercourse. It is recommended that you have a follow-up pregnancy test four to six weeks following the assault.

You will not be tested for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Instead, you will be given a medication to prevent the diseases. It is possible to contract HIV from the perpetrator if the perpetrator is infected with the virus. HIV testing may not be done at the hospital you go to, and testing done immediately following the assault would only indicate if you had HIV at the time of the assault. It is recommended that you be tested four to six weeks, three months, and again at six months following a sexual assault to determine if the virus was transmitted at the time of the assault.

You are not obligated to do anything after being sexually assaulted, but you may choose to take advantage of one or more options for medical care, evidence collection, and reporting the assault to military investigative services, military, or civilian police. As a victim of sexual assault, you can:

- Have a SAFE performed and file a police report;
- Request to have a SAFE performed but choose not to report the assault to the police.
- Receive medical treatment for any injuries and prophylactic treatment for sexually transmitted infections and opt out of having a SAFE performed and opt out of reporting the assault to police.
- File a police report but opt out of having a SAFE performed; or
- Opt out of medical care and/or police reporting.

By law, all hospitals must conduct a SAFE; Immediate Care Centers and physicians' offices are not able to conduct SAFE services. Doctors, Nurse Practitioners, Physicians Assistants, or SANEs can perform SAFEs, but not all hospitals have SANEs.

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People who have been sexually assaulted are encouraged to have a SAFE performed as soon as possible within 96 hours of the assault. Past the 96-hour period, any collectible evidence will have been lost. If you have been sexually assaulted, you are encouraged not to eat, drink, or smoke until the SANE or physician provides the okay. It is also best not to shower, bathe, or douche until the SANE or physician completes the exam. If you have already done some of those activities within the 96 hours, you are still eligible for the SAFE, and you are still encouraged to go in for the exam.

Paying for medical care costs after a sexual assault can be a barrier for survivors when deciding whether or not to seek medical care. In some states the cost of the medical exam is entirely covered by a criminal investigation, sexual assault relief fund, or the like. In other states, the investigative portions of the exam may be covered by law enforcement while the medical costs are covered by the patient's insurance, other charitable funds, or the patient themselves. You will need to review the requirements of your state to determine specific coverage.

TYPES OF REPORTING

Although you have just experienced one of the most traumatic, emotional shocks that can occur, it is still a time when you must make decisions about whether you want to report the assault and if so, what type of report. Sexual assaults are rarely reported. Sexual assault remains the most drastically underreported crime in the U.S. Reporting rates are low for a variety of reasons. A survivor may be uncertain whether what happened was actually sexual assault. Survivors may also think they will not be believed or blamed by law enforcement, the courts, and friends. Many victims/survivors find an immediate coping strategy in indulging in the denial that the assault ever occurred in the first place. Also, if the perpetrator was an intimate partner or close friend, you may feel torn between your violation from the experience and your love for the perpetrator.

Restricted reporting is an option for adult victims of sexual assault who wish to confidentially disclose the crime to specifically identified individuals without triggering the official investigative process or notification to command.

You alone must decide if you want to make a report and what type of report to make. If there is a chance you might want to report, preserve all evidence. Do not shower, urinate, change clothes (including undergarments), brush teeth, bathe, douche, or straighten up the area until the medical and legal evidence has been collected.

Restricted Reporting

Restricted reporting is an option for adult victims of sexual assault who wish to confidentially disclose the crime to specifically identified individuals without triggering the official investigative process or notification to command. Service members or their adult military dependents who desire Restricted Reporting under this policy must use one of the following reporting avenues:

- Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)
- SAPR Victim Advocate (VA)
- Healthcare Provider or Personnel

While Special Victims' Counsel and chaplains have confidentiality/privilege, they cannot accept a Restricted Report.

Service members who were victims of sexual assault before enlistment or commissioning are eligible to receive SAPR services under a Restricted or Unrestricted Reporting option. The DoD shall provide support to a service member regardless of when or where the sexual assault occurred. National Guard or Reserve component members who are sexually assaulted while performing active service or inactive duty training, or if reporting a sexual assault that occurred prior to, or while not performing active service or inactive duty training, are eligible to receive SAPR support advocacy services from a SARC and a SAPR VA and the appropriate referrals, if requested, and are eligible to file a Restricted or Unrestricted Report. Intimate partner violence is handled by the Family Advocacy Program and not SAPR.

DoD's Restricted (Confidential) Reporting Policy allows you to report the crime to specified individuals (SARC, SAPR VA, or healthcare personnel) who can then ensure you receive healthcare (medical and mental health), advocacy services (from a SARC or SAPR VA), and legal advice (from a Special Victims' Counsel) without notifying command or law enforcement officials.

DoD's Restricted (Confidential) Reporting Policy allows you to report the crime to specified individuals (SARC, SAPR VA, or healthcare personnel) who can then ensure you receive healthcare (medical and mental health), advocacy services (from a SARC or SAPR VA), and legal advice (from a Special Victims' Counsel) without notifying command or law enforcement officials. For public safety and command responsibility purposes, the SARC will notify the installation commander that "an assault" has occurred and provide very limited details that do not identify you as the victim. This policy grants you space and time and increased control over your personal information release and management. Even if you choose not to pursue an investigation, Restricted Reporting allows the commander to receive

the anonymous reporting information giving them a clearer picture of the sexual violence within their command.

Additionally, the CATCH Program gives sexual assault victims making a Restricted Report an opportunity to anonymously disclose suspect information to help the DoD identify serial offenders. Participation in the CATCH Program is voluntary and your Restricted Report will not be used without your permission.

There are several benefits of Restricted Reporting that include:

- Allowing you to receive healthcare (medical and mental health) and victim advocacy as soon as possible after you are assaulted.
- Allowing you the personal space and time to consider your options and to begin the healing process.
- Empowering you to seek relevant information and support to make more informed decisions about participating in the criminal investigation.
- Allowing you to seek legal advice from a Special Victims' Counsel.
- Allowing you to control the release and management of your personal information.
- Participating in the CATCH Program allows you to be contacted privately if there is evidence of a repeat offender to decide whether to convert your Restricted Report to an Unrestricted Report.

There are also several limitations of Restricted Reporting.

- Your assailant cannot be held accountable and may be capable of assaulting other victims.
- You cannot receive a military protective order
- You cannot request an Expedited Transfer or humanitarian move to allow you to move to a different unit or base.
- You will continue to have contact with your assailant if he or she is in your organization or billeted with you.
- Evidence from the crime scene where the assault occurred will be lost, and the official investigation should you switch to an Unrestricted Report will likely encounter significant obstacles.
- You may be unable to discuss the assault with anyone, to include your friends, as they may be mandatory reporters. The only exception would be chaplains, health care personnel, your assigned SAPR VA or SARC, and Special Victims' Counsel.

Unrestricted Reporting

Unrestricted Reporting is recommended if you desire an official investigation and command notification in addition to healthcare, victim advocacy, and legal services. When selecting Unrestricted Reporting, you should report to:

- Law Enforcement/MICO who will initiate an investigation and start a "report of investigation;"
- Commander who will then immediately contact the MICO to start a "report of investigation;"
- SARC who will fill out a report with the DD Form 2910 where the victim elects a reporting option.
- SAPR VA who will fill out a report with the DD Form 2910; or,
- Health care personnel who will then immediately contact the SARC to fill out the DD Form 2910.

Upon notification of a reported sexual assault, the SARC will immediately assign a SAPR VA and inform you of your right to speak to a Special Victims' Counsel/Victims' Legal Counsel (SVC/VLC). The healthcare personnel shall conduct a Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) at your discretion or request. Details regarding the incident will be limited to only those personnel who have a legitimate need to know.

Commanders notified of a sexual assault through unrestricted reporting should take immediate steps to ensure your physical safety, emotional security, and medical treatment needs are met, and that the appropriate investigative agency is notified.

There are a number of benefits to Unrestricted Reporting to include:

- Giving you the opportunity to feel a sense of closure or healing which can aid recovery.
- Giving the military the ability to hold the offender appropriately accountable.
- Ensuring your safety and the safety of others who may be victimized by the same suspect.
- Giving you the ability to request a Military Protective Order (MPO).
- Giving you the ability to request an Expedited Transfer to move to a different unit or base.

The disadvantage of filing an unrestricted report is that once filed, the report cannot be made restricted.

INVESTIGATION PROCESS

The nature of the investigative process can be stressful for victims of sexual assault despite the sincere efforts of law enforcement, staff judge advocates, and other personnel entrusted with holding offenders appropriately accountable. Investigators must carefully collect evidence, and the process from investigation to court-martial or some other form of punishment may take many months. They must often ask you, the survivor, very precise and probing questions because there are usually no eyewitnesses to provide crucial details. You may not feel that you are ready to answer questions so soon after your assault, but the investigators need to interview you while your memories are still fresh. Much patience will be required on your part. You will be kept well informed of any investigative actions taken in response to your reported sexual assault. Your commander will ensure that you receive, at a minimum, a monthly update regarding the current status of any ongoing investigative, prosecution, or command proceedings regarding the sexual assault. Monthly updates are required until the final disposition of the reported assault. "Final disposition" means the conclusion of any judicial, non-judicial, and administrative actions (including separation actions and no action).

If you file an Unrestricted or Restricted Report of sexual assault, then you are protected from reprisal, coercion, ostracism, maltreatment, retaliation, or threat of the same because of reporting a sexual assault.

RETALIATION

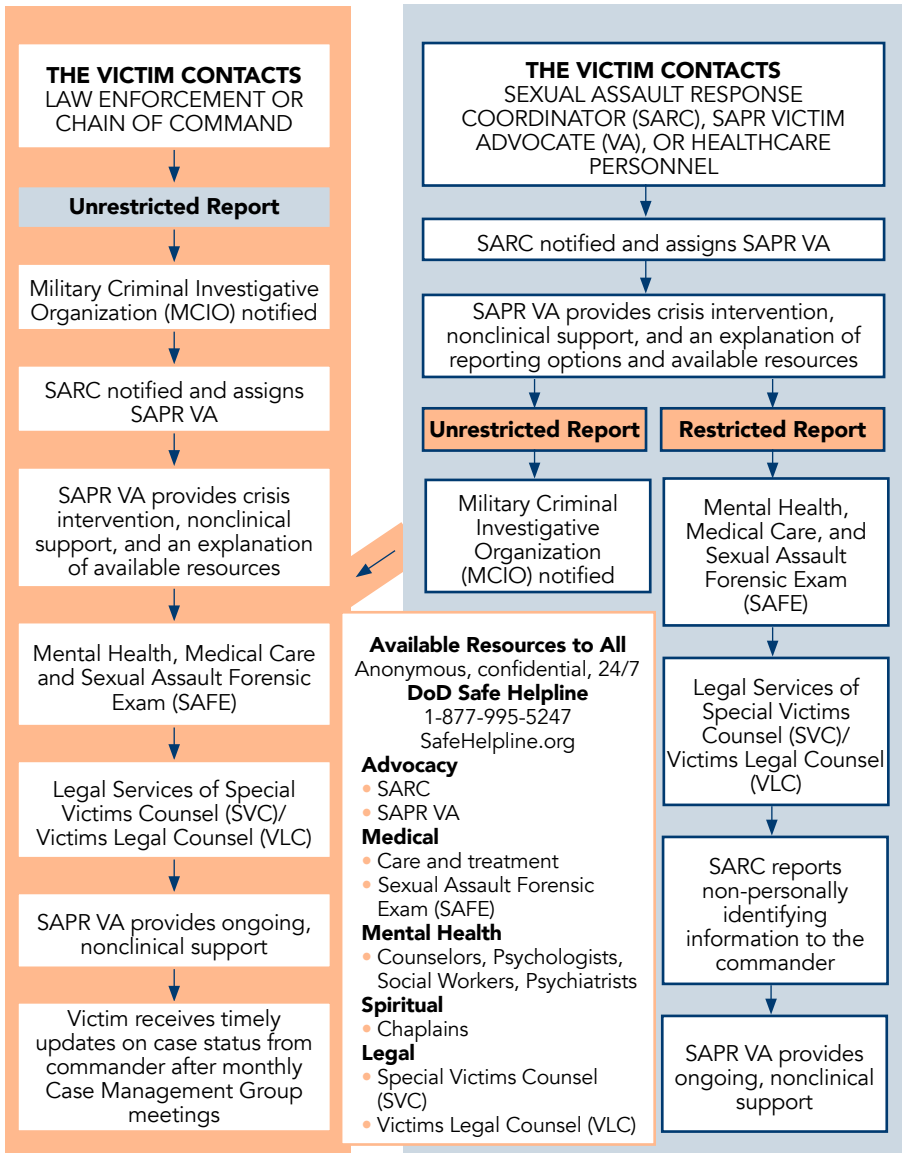
If you file an Unrestricted or Restricted Report of sexual assault, then you are protected from reprisal, coercion, ostracism, maltreatment, retaliation, or threat of the same because of reporting a sexual assault. Personnel who are bystanders, witnesses, and/or first responders to Unrestricted or Restricted Reports of sexual assault are also protected from retaliation according to DoD Retaliation Prevention and Response Strategy. For all types of retaliation, a SARC or designated SAPR VA can provide information and referrals to the appropriate investigative agency. Retaliation and Reprisal may be reported to the DoD Inspector General (IG) or a Military Service IG. Ostracism and Maltreatment may be reported to your Commander or Equal Opportunity (EO) Office.

SURVIVOR MISCONDUCT

An investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an alleged sexual assault may develop evidence that you engaged in misconduct such as underage drinking or other alcohol related offenses, adultery, drug abuse, fraternization, or other violations of instructions, regulations, or orders. In accordance with the UCMJ, the Manual for Courts-Martial (MCM), and service regulations, commanders are responsible for ensuring that survivor misconduct is addressed in a consistent manner and appropriate to the circumstances. This may include deferring disciplinary action until after the disposition of the sexual assault case. The gravity of any collateral misconduct by the survivor and its impact on good order and discipline should be considered in deciding what, if any, corrective action is appropriate.

SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE FLOW CHART

Note: A victim who first contacts law enforcement or chain of command will have only the Unrestricted Report option. At any time the victim may switch a Restricted Report to an Unrestricted Report.



Note: These steps are based on DoD Directives 6495.01, 1030.01, and Directive Type Memorandum 14-007, and DoD Instructions 6495.02 and 1030.2. The response procedures may vary by Service or Installation but must still comply with the requirements in these policies.

THE COURTS-MARTIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DISCHARGE PROCESS

By order of the Secretary of Defense (SecDef), effective June 28, 2012, the O-6 SCMCA is the initial disposition authority for certain sexual assault cases and all offenses arising from or relating to the same incident(s).

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COMMANDER

Ordinarily, the immediate commander of a person accused or suspected of committing an offense determines the appropriate initial disposition of the case. The options available to a commander include no action, administrative action, nonjudicial punishment, or preferral of court-martial charges. The MCIOs are the lead agencies for investigating sexual assault allegations regardless of the severity of the offense.

By order of the Secretary of Defense (SecDef), effective June 28, 2012, the O-6 SCMCA is the initial disposition authority for certain sexual assault cases and all offenses arising from or relating to the same incident(s). Specified sexual assault offenses referred to a court-martial are now required to be referred to a General Court-Martial (GCM).

ADMINISTRATIVE DISCHARGES

Potential Discharge of the Accused

Commanders are responsible for identifying service members for discharge but must also make a reasonable effort to help those members meet military standards. Commanders must also consult the servicing staff judge advocate before initiating the involuntary separation of a service member. Before initiating discharge, a commander must consider all the factors that make the member subject to discharge, including:

- The seriousness of circumstances that make the member subject to discharge and how the member's retention might affect military discipline, good order, and morale.
- Whether the circumstances that are the basis for discharge action will continue or recur.
- The likelihood that the member will be disruptive or an undesirable influence in present or future duty assignments.

- The member's ability to perform duties effectively in the present and in the future.
- The member's potential for advancement and leadership; and
- An evaluation of the member's military record including performance reports, awards and decorations, records of courts-martial, and records of administrative actions.

A commander should not use an administrative discharge as a substitute for disciplinary action.

Special Processing Considerations for Service Members Who Have Been Sexually Assaulted

The Air Force provides that Airmen who have made an unrestricted report of sexual assault require special processing procedures. The commander must notify the separation authority that the member has reported being a past victim of sexual assault and include in the recommendation for discharge memorandum sufficient information concerning the alleged assault and the member's status. The Airmen must be advised of the right to request a review by the general court-martial convening authority (GCMCA) authority; if the Airmen believes the recommendation for involuntary separation was initiated in retaliation for making the unrestricted report of sexual assault and is within one year of final disposition of his/her sexual assault allegation as of the date of the notification of discharge.

The Army requires that in all separation cases the unit commander must indicate in their commanding officer's report to the separation authority whether the Soldier was or was not a victim of sexual assault for which an unrestricted report was filed within the previous 24 months prior to initiation of the separation action. The Soldier must also state whether they believe or do not believe that the separation action is a direct or indirect result of the sexual assault itself or of filing an unrestricted report. The SPCMCA or GCMCA will review all administrative separations involving survivors of sexual assault and Soldiers who believe their discharge was a result of a sexual assault or of filing an unrestricted report.

The first flag officer the chain of command in the Navy is the separation authority for servicemembers who are the survivors of sexual assault and are recommended for involuntary separation within one year of the final disposition of the sexual assault case. Similarly, the GCMCA

is the separation authority for Marines who are the survivors of sexual assault and recommended for involuntary separation within one year of the reported sexual assault.

In the Coast Guard, if action is initiated to involuntarily separate a servicemember within five years of a report of sexual assault being made, and the member believes the discharge recommendation is unfairly related to the filing of the report, the servicemember may request that the Commander review the circumstances of and grounds for the proposed involuntary separation. In these cases, the discharge recommendation and the member's request shall be forwarded through the chain of command, including review and endorsement by the first flag officer in the servicemember's chain of command.

Characterization of Service

A member administratively separated may be characterized as honorable, general (under honorable conditions), or under other than honorable conditions (UOTHC). An Honorable discharge is appropriate when the quality of the member's service generally has met military standards or acceptable conduct and performance of duty, or a member's service is otherwise so meritorious that any other characterization would be inappropriate. A General discharge is appropriate if a member's service has been honest and faithful, but significant negative aspects of the member's conduct or performance outweigh positive aspects of military record. A UOTHC

discharge is appropriate if based on a pattern of behavior or one or more acts or omissions constituting a significant departure from the conduct expected of Airmen. This characterization can only be given if the member is offered an administrative discharge board or if a discharge is unconditionally requested in lieu of trial by court-martial.

Service members are often familiar with the terms dishonorable discharge and bad conduct discharge but are not aware that those types of discharges are punitive discharges and are authorized only due to a court-martial sentence. Additionally, suppose the sole basis

There are three types of administrative discharges:

- **Honorable**
- **Under Honorable (General)**
- **Under Other Than Honorable (UOTHC)**

There are two types of punitive discharges authorized only at court-martial:

- **Bad Conduct Discharge**
- **Dishonorable Discharge**

for discharging a service member with a UOTHC service characterization is a serious offense that resulted in a conviction by a court-martial that did not adjudge a punitive discharge. In that case, the Secretary of the respective branch must approve the service characterization.

Discharge in Lieu of Trial by Court-Martial

Service members undergoing a court-martial may request to be administratively discharged in lieu of trial by court-martial. If the request is approved, all charges against the service member are dismissed and the service member is discharged administratively. If the preliminary hearing has been forwarded to the General Court-Martial Convening Authority (GCMCA), then he/she is the approval authority of such a request. Otherwise, the Special Court-Martial Convening Authority (SPCMCA) is the approval authority. Service members receiving this type of discharge will more than likely receive a UOTHC discharge.

NJP or Captain's Mast provides commanders with the opportunity to invoke quick disciplinary action while maintaining due process for the accused for minor offenses under the UCMJ.

NONJUDICIAL PUNISHMENT (NJP)

Nonjudicial punishment (NJP) in the Army and Air Force, or Captain's Mast in the Navy and Marine Corps, provides commanders with the opportunity to invoke quick disciplinary action while maintaining due process for the accused member under Article 15 of the UCMJ. NJP is solely utilized for the disposition of UCMJ offenses and should generally be reserved for "minor offenses" under the UCMJ. An offense is usually not considered minor if the maximum imposable punishment at a general court-martial for that offense includes a dishonorable discharge or confinement for more than one year. The decision, whether an offense is "minor" is a matter of discretion for the commander imposing NJP and include an evaluation of factors such as: (1) the nature of the offense and the circumstances surrounding its commission; (2) the effect of both the misconduct and the resulting NJP on good order and discipline; (3) the member's age, rank, duty assignment, record, and experience; and, (4) the effect of NJP on the member and the member's record.

The UCMJ always applies at all places to active-duty military members, and reservists in activated status and national guardsmen in "Title 10" federal status. Typically, the statute of limitations is five years after the offense, but there is no statute of limitations in cases of rape, sexual assault, and rape or sexual assault of a child.

COURT-MARTIAL JURISDICTION UNDER THE UCMJ

The UCMJ always applies at all places to active-duty military members, reservists in activated status, and national guardsmen in "Title 10" federal status. Courts-martial have exclusive power to hear and decide "purely military offenses" (i.e., AWOL, desertion, etc.) and may try crimes that violate both the UCMJ and local criminal law by court-martial, a civilian court, or both. For the convening authority to be tried by court-martial, they must have jurisdiction over the accused under the UCMJ (i.e., military members). The convening authority does not have jurisdiction over civilians who commit crimes against military members. Typically,

the statute of limitations for preferral of charges for a court-martial is five years after the offense, but there is no statute of limitations in cases of rape, sexual assault, and rape or sexual assault of a child.

The DoD's policy that any service member convicted in a general or special court-martial of any specified sexual offense must register with the appropriate authorities in the jurisdiction the service member will reside, work, or attend school upon leaving confinement (or upon conviction if not confined). However, the specific sex offender registration requirements are state-specific so the same offense may not require registration in different states.

Preferral of Charges

The preparation of court-martial charges involves drafting the charges and specifications. Preferral of charges in the military is formally accusing a military member of a violation of the UCMJ. The charge states which article of the UCMJ has allegedly been violated through a concise statement of exactly how the article was allegedly violated. Anyone subject to the UCMJ may prefer charges against another person subject to the UCMJ, though the immediate commander of an accused is the individual who ordinarily prefers

charges. Preferral does not require the presence of the accused. However, after preferral, the commander must inform the accused of the charge(s). The commander then forwards the charge(s) to the convening authority for disposition.

Processing of the Charge(s)

To convene a court-martial, the charge(s) must be forwarded to a convening authority, usually the SPCMCA. The SPCMCA can dismiss the charges or return the charges to the commander for alternate disposition. If the SPCMCA determines the charges warrant a court-martial, then the SPCMCA must:

- Refer the charge(s) to a special court-martial or summary court-martial; or
- Appoint a preliminary hearing officer (PHO) to conduct an Article 32 hearing.

The PHO will complete and forward a preliminary hearing report to the SPCMCA for review. If the SPCMCA believes a general court-martial is warranted, the SPCMCA forwards the preliminary hearing report along with the preferred charges to the GCMCA for review and possible referral to a general court-martial. The GCMCA can refer the charges to a general court-martial and convene the court-martial, return the charges to the SPCMCA for disposition, or dismiss the charges.

Article 32 Hearing

The Article 32 preliminary hearing is a formal preliminary hearing conducted prior to a general court-martial only. An Article 32 hearing is not required for summary or special courts-martial. The Article 32 hearing has been labeled the “military equivalent” to a civilian grand jury proceeding. The Article 32 hearing is limited in both purpose and scope. The statutory purposes being:

- Determine whether there is probable cause (more likely than not) to believe an offense has been committed and whether the accused committed the offense.
- Determine whether the convening authority has court-martial jurisdiction over the offense and the accused.
- Consider the form of the charges.
- Recommend the disposition that should be made in the case.

After charges have been referred, they may be referred to one of three types of courts-martial: summary, special, or general. The process of referral is simply the order that states that a specific court-martial will try charges against the accused.

The PHO's recommendation is only advisory. The convening authority may consider the PHO's recommendation but does not have to.

Referral of Charges

After charges have been referred, they may be referred to one of three types of courts-martial: summary, special, or general. The process of referral is simply the order that states that a specific court-martial will try charges against the accused. The convening authority determines which level of court-martial to which the charges are to be referred.

Trial

Military trials are conducted in two phases: (1) a findings (guilt/innocence determination); and, in the event of a conviction at findings, (2) sentencing. A military accused may elect to be tried by a military judge alone or by a panel of court members (the military equivalent of a civilian jury). Findings are the first part of a trial during which guilt or innocence is determined. An accused may plead guilty or not guilty.

The second part of the trial is sentencing during which an appropriate punishment is determined. Unlike many civilian courts, sentencing typically occurs immediately following findings. During sentencing, the defense can present matters in extenuation to explain the circumstances surrounding the commission of the offense and/or matters in mitigation to lessen the punishment to be adjudged by the court-martial. As a victim of sexual assault, you also have the right to be reasonably heard at a sentencing hearing relating to that offense.

Post-Trial Matters

Following a court-martial, the military judge will prepare and sign a Statement of Trial Results (STR). The STR summarizes the findings and sentence of the case and as the victim, you will receive a copy of the STR. The accused will then have the opportunity to submit clemency matters to the convening authority for their consideration

as to whether to approve the findings of guilt or to approve or disapprove all or part of the sentence. As the victim of sexual assault, you have the right to submit clemency matters in writing. The submission cannot include matters related to the accused's character unless they were admitted as evidence at trial. You are only entitled one opportunity to submit matters to the convening authority. The accused is also given an opportunity to respond to anything you submit as well.

As the victim of sexual assault, you have the right to submit clemency matters in writing to the convening authority for consideration. You are only entitled to one opportunity to submit matters.

After the court-martial is over, the convening authority has limited authority to take "action" on the findings or sentence. Generally speaking, the convening authority may take "action" by: (1) disapproving findings of guilt; (2) reducing, disapproving, or suspending a sentence except under certain circumstances; or (3) taking no action.

As a victim, you have the right to be provided information, if applicable, about the conviction, sentencing, imprisonment, Convening Authority's action, appellate review, and release of the perpetrator.

WHAT ARE YOUR SURVIVOR'S RIGHTS?

EXPEDITED TRANSFERS

As a survivor of sexual assault, you can request a temporary reassignment or relocation, known as an expedited transfer, from your commander if you have filed an Unrestricted Report. An expedited transfer provides you the option of a permanent change of station (PCS) or a temporary or permanent change of assignment (PCA) to a location that will assist with your immediate and future welfare while also allowing you to move to a location that can offer additional support to assist with healing, recovery, and rehabilitation. NG service members may request a temporary or permanent transfer to a different location within their assigned command within the State, or an interstate transfer. An expedited transfer is only available if you make an Unrestricted Report through either the SAPR program or the Family Advocacy Program. You are eligible to receive one expedited facilitated transfer for an Unrestricted Report of sexual assault.

Upon receiving a request for expedited transfer, the installation commander has 72 hours to approve or deny the request and can consider the potential transfer of the alleged offender instead of the victim if appropriate.

SPECIAL VICTIMS' COUNSEL (SVC)/VICTIMS' LEGAL COUNSEL (VLC)

The legal process for prosecuting sexual assault cases can often be daunting and confusing for victims. Most Judge Advocate General (JAG) officers in the military work for commanders and are required to inform them of incidents that happen within their command. Working with the military services, the DoD has created a legal support function for victims of sexual assault that provides legal advice and guidance and will maintain your confidentiality. You can access this support whether you have filed a Restricted or Unrestricted Report. The Army, Air Force, National Guard, and Coast Guard refer to these professionals as SVC, while the Navy and Marine Corps have labeled them VLC. Whether an SVC or VLC, these lawyers have experience trying cases in both military and civilian trials. They understand the legal process and are able to guide you as a perpetrator is brought to trial.

Your conversations with your SVC/VLC are confidential and privileged communications. The relationship between an SVC/VLC and victim is that

of an attorney-client relationship. SVC/MLC provides victims an overview of the military justice system, including investigation of crimes, roles and responsibilities of the convening authority, trial counsel, defense counsel, and investigators, purpose of the Article 32 hearing, preferral and referral of charges, trial procedures, and evidentiary matters.

Your SVC/MLC will also help you understand the legal options including obtaining restraining orders and MPOs, making Restricted versus Unrestricted Reports of sexual assault, and obtaining testimonial or transactional immunity regarding collateral misconduct before testing against the accused in the case.

SVC/MLC will ensure that you are informed of your rights under the UCMJ, Military Rules of Evidence (M.R.E.), and Rules for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.), specifically:

- Right to be present at military justice proceedings (M.R.E. 615 and R.C.M. 806).
- Right to provide your view to the convening authority regarding initial disposition of an offense (R.C.M. 306).
- Right not to be compelled to make statements or produce evidence when not material and tends to degrade the person (M.R.E. 303).
- Right to attend and be heard regarding admissibility of prior sexual history or predisposition evidence in sexual assault cases (M.R.E. 412).
- Psychotherapist-patient privilege (M.R.E. 513).
- Victim advocate-victim privilege (M.R.E. 514).
- Right to receive a copy of the Record of Trial when you testified in a case involving sexual assault (Article 54, UCMJ); and,
- A right to be heard through counsel in court-martial proceedings pursuant to *LRM v. Kastenber*, 72 M.J. 364 (C.A.A.F. 2013).

SVC/MLCs will represent you in the military justice process. Detailed SVC/VLCs will attend your interviews with investigators, trial counsel, defense counsel, and others. They represent your interest in court by writing and arguing appropriate motions for relief and assisting you with post-trial matters. Your SVC/MLC will assist you in cases where you may have violated rules and regulations such as underage drinking, out after curfew hours, adultery, etc. Finally, your SVC/MLC will represent your interests even where those interests may be different from the Government's interest in prosecuting the accused in the case.

PROTECTIVE ORDERS

In the civilian justice system, a “restraining order” or “protective order” is issued by a judge when a party petitions the court for protection from another individual. The military has its version commonly referred to as a military protective order (MPO). A MPO is a written lawful order issued by a commander that orders a service member to avoid contact with those persons identified in the order. You can request that the accused’s commander issue an MPO following an incident of sexual assault.

You can also pursue a civilian protective order (CPO). A CPO is an order issued by a judge, magistrate, or other authorized civilian official, ordering an individual to avoid contact with a specific person. Pursuant to the Armed Forces Domestic Security Act, 10 U.S.C. § 1561a, a CPO has the same force and effect on a military installation as such order has within the jurisdiction in which it was issued.

UCMJ VICTIM RIGHTS

Article 6b of the UCMJ established eight rights for crime victims. For Article 6b and VWAP, a victim is defined as a person who suffered direct physical, emotional, or pecuniary harm due to the commission of an offense under the UCMJ. A victim has the right to:

- To be reasonably protected from the accused.
- To reasonable, accurate, and timely notice of specified hearings.
- Not to be excluded from any public hearing or proceeding.
- To be reasonably heard at specified hearings.
- To confer with government counsel for proceedings.
- To receive restitution as provided by law.
- To proceedings free from unreasonable delay.
- To be treated with fairness and with respect for his/her dignity and privacy.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Nearly 1 in 5 women in the U.S. have experienced rape in their lifetime, and nearly half of all women have experienced sexual violence other than rape. Researchers have also found that at least 1 in 6 men have experienced sexual abuse or assault, whether in childhood or as adults. Additionally, roughly 1 in 2 transgender individuals have experienced rape or sexual assault in their lifetime. According to the Department Of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention Response Office in 2020, the DoD received 6,290 sexual assault reports, an increase from 6,236 in 2019. Sexual assault is suffered disproportionately by women of color, individuals with disabilities, and individuals who identify as LGBTQI. It is also one of the most underreported crimes and is associated with numerous negative health and economic outcomes for survivors.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

There are plenty of resources available to you if you or someone you know has experienced sexual assault. These resources range from emotional support to instructional resources based on your specific military service.

MILITARY RESOURCES

Active Duty, Guard, or Reserve

The **DoD Safe Helpline** (www.SafeHelpline.org) has every resource for those looking for support or information related to sexual assault. The DoD Safe Helpline has self-paced educational programs that span from “Building Hope and Resiliency: Addressing the Effects of Sexual Assault,” through “Suicide 101: Responding to Suicidal Ideation Among Survivors of Sexual Assault.”

- Download the DoD Safe Helpline app, available in the App Store and Google Play
- DoD **Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO)** (www.sapr.mil): DoD’s SAPRO is responsible for oversight of the Department’s sexual assault policy. SAPRO works hand-in-hand with the services and the civilian community. The SAPRO website holds all the official DoD reports, current policies, and victim support within the DoD.
 - **Air Force (Space Force)** (www.resilience.af.mil/SAPR/)
 - **Army** (www.armyresilience.army.mil)
 - **Marines** (www.manpower.usmc.mil/webcenter/portal/MF_SAPR)
 - **Navy** (www.cnic.navy.mil/ffr/family_readiness/fleet_and_family_support_program/sexual_assault_prevention_and_response.html)
 - **Coast Guard** (www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Human-Resources-CG-1/Health-Safety-and-Work-Life-CG-11/Office-of-Work-Life-CG-111/Sexual-Assault-Prevention-and-Response-Program/)

Veterans

The VA has a unique set of resources for veterans that have experienced military sexual trauma. The **VA website** (www.mentalhealth.va.gov/mentalhealth/msthome/index.asp) also has direct links:

- **Make the Connection** (www.maketheconnection.net/conditions/military-sexual-trauma): Make the Connection is a compilation of videos of veterans sharing their experiences with military sexual trauma. You can filter these videos by gender, time served, and any additional similar experiences.
- **Beyond MST (App)** (Beyond MST | VA Mobile): Beyond MST was designed to help people heal from sexual assault or harassment during military service, also called military sexual trauma (MST). The app is a free, secure, and private self-help tool that survivors can use at their own pace in their recovery. It features over 30 specialized tools to help users build skills to cope with problems, manage symptoms, and improve their quality of life.

NON-MILITARY RESOURCES

- **Service Women’s Action Network (SWAN)** (www.servicewomensactionnetwork.org): SWAN is the voice of women who have served or are currently serving in the military. We are a member-driven network dedicated to supporting, connecting, and advocating for service women’s individual and collective needs, past, present, and future.
- **Protect Our Defenders** (www.protectourdefenders.com): Protect Our Defenders (POD) Legal Services Program is the only program in the country providing free legal services specifically for survivors of military sexual assault and sexual harassment, and bystanders and whistleblowers who are suffering retaliation for intervening or reporting sexual assault or harassment. Services often include victim legal representation for the military justice process, protection from retaliation, discharge records corrections, and assistance with obtaining needed health care.
- **Combat Sexual Assault** (www.combatsexualassault.org/aboutus): Our mission is to empower survivors of sexual violence by helping them find their voice and overcome barriers to obtaining justice, all while disrupting the cultural stigma surrounding the disclosures of these crimes. This organization focuses on advocacy, developing peer networks, and on-staff legal counsel.
- **National Veterans Legal Services Program** (www.nvlsp.org): Our goal is to ensure that every MST survivor that qualifies for disability benefits receives the benefits they deserve.

- **Male Survivor** (www.malesurvivor.org): MaleSurvivor is a 501(c)(3), non-profit, public benefit organization committed to preventing, healing, and eliminating all forms of sexual victimization of boys and men through support, treatment, research, education, advocacy, and activism.
- **Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network** (www.rainn.org): RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network) is the nation's largest anti-sexual violence organization. RAINN created and operates the National Sexual Assault Hotline
- **The National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards** (www.nacvcb.org): Crime victim compensation programs in states across the country help victims of violence every day, paying for the costs of medical care, mental health counseling, and lost time at work, as well as funerals and other expenses that families face in the aftermath of homicide.

ACRONYMS

- AFOSI:** Air Force Office of Special Investigation
- CGIS:** Coast Guard Investigative Service
- CID:** Criminal Investigation Division
- CPO:** Civilian Protective Order
- DoD:** Department of Defense
- EO:** Equal Opportunity
- GCM:** General Court-Martial
- GCMCA:** General Court-Martial Convening Authority
- JAG:** Judge Advocate General
- NGB:** National Guard Bureau
- MCIO:** Military Criminal Investigation Organization
- MCM:** Manual for Courts-Martial
- NCIS:** Naval Criminal Investigative Service
- NJP:** Nonjudicial Punishment
- OCI:** Office of Complex Investigations
- PCA:** Permanent Change of Assignment
- PCS:** Permanent Change of Station
- PHO:** Preliminary Hearing Officer
- SAFE:** Sexual Assault Forensic Exam
- SANE:** Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
- SAPRO:** Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office
- SAPR VA:** Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocate
- SARC:** Sexual Assault Response Coordinator
- SecDef:** Secretary of Defense
- SPCMCA:** Special Court-Martial Convening Authority
- STR:** Statement of Trial Results
- SVC:** Special Victims Counsel
- SVIP:** Special Victims Investigations and Prosecutions
- UCMJ:** Uniform Code of Military Justice
- UOTHC:** Under Other Than Honorable Conditions
- VLC:** Victims Legal Counsel
- VVA:** Volunteer Victim Advocate

Resources

- 1in6** - <https://1in6.org/get-information/the-1-in-6-statistic/#:~:text=There%27s%20strong%20scientific%20evidence.%20At%20least%201%20in,or%20assault%2C%20whether%20in%20childhood%20or%20as%20adults>
- 301st Fighter Wing** - <https://www.301fw.afrc.af.mil/About-Us/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/167014/sexual-assault-prevention-and-response-program-information/>
- Adena Health System** - <https://www.adena.org/media/newsdetail.dT/sexual-assault-awareness-article>
- Air Force (Space Force)** - www.resilience.af.mil/SAPR/
- Army** - www.armyresilience.army.mil
- Coast Guard** - www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Human-Resources-CG-1/Health-Safety-and-Work-Life-CG-11/Office-of-Work-Life-CG-111/Sexual-Assault-Prevention-and-Response-Program/
- Combat Sexual Assault** - <https://combatsexualassault.org/>
- Cornell Law** - <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/32/635.19>
- Defense Intelligence Agency** - <https://www.dia.mil/About/SAPR/>
- Hope Harbor** - <https://hopeharbor.net/get-help/survivors/>
- JBER Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program** - <https://www.jber.jb.mil/Portals/144/Services-Resources/Resiliency-Resources/SAPR.pdf>
- Make the Connection** - <https://www.maketheconnection.net/whats-new/tag/military-sexual-trauma>
- Male Survivor** - <https://malesurvivor.org/about-malesurvivor/>
- Marine Corps** - www.manpower.usmc.mil/webcenter/portal/MF_SAPR
<https://www.hqmc.marines.mil/sja/Branches/Victim-Legal-Counsel-Organization-VLCO/>
<https://www.mcieast.marines.mil/Staff-Offices/Legal-Services-Support-Team-Camp-Lejeune/VCLO/>
<https://www.marines.mil/News/Messages/Messages-Display/Article/2644346/the-marine-corps-victims-legal-counsel-organization-vlco-and-availability-of-ma/>

MyJAG - <http://myjag.com/otw/victim-witness-assistance-program>

National Veterans Legal Services Program - <https://lawlegal.co/veterans/attorney>

Naval Service Training Command - <https://www.netc.navy.mil/Commands/Naval-Service-Training-Command/Sexual-Assault/>

Navy www.cnic.navy.mil/ffr/family_readiness/fleet_and_family_support_program/sexual_assault_prevention_and_response.html

Nonjudicial Punishments - <https://jsc.defense.gov/Portals/99/Documents/PART%20V%20-%20NONJUDICIAL%20PUNISHMENT%20PROCEDURES.pdf?ver=2018-12-04-143922-530>

Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence - <https://oaesv.org/get-help/about-sexual-violence/>

POD - <https://www.protectourdefenders.com/about/>

RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network) - <https://www.rainn.org>

SAPR - <https://sapr.mil/restricted-reporting>

<https://www.sapr.mil/help-my-friend>

<https://www.sapr.mil/unrestricted-reporting>

<https://sapr.mil/svc-vlc>

The Balance Careers - <https://www.thebalancecareers.com/military-protective-restraining-orders-3354203>

The Center For Women and Families - <https://www.thecenteronline.org/get-help/sexual-assault-services/sexual-assault-forensic-exams/>

The Military Commander and the Law - <https://studylib.net/doc/8123564/military-commander-and-the-law>

Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) - 10 U.S.C. Chapter 47

United States Government Accountability Office - <https://www.gao.gov/assets/700/696049.pdf>

U.S. Army Trial Defense Service Pacific Rim - <https://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/tds/assets/info-papers/Courts-Martial-170914.pdf>

Vanderbilt University - <https://news.vanderbilt.edu/2021/03/30/security-notice-sexual-assault-10/>



Service 
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Action 
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