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MASTER OF MILITARY STUDIES

SEXUAL ASSAULTS IN THE MARINE CORPS: REALLY INCREASING?

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF MILITARY STUDIES

MAJOR SALLY ANN FALCO, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

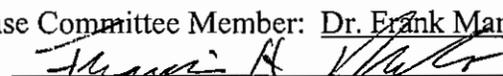
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Preface

Sexual Assault is a heinous crime that is committed throughout the world. Anyone is susceptible to being a victim of a sexual assault, even a Marine. Unfortunately, instead of Marines caring for each other, some are hurting one another. With that being said, my report covers only Marine offenders sexually assaulting other uniformed members.

Over the years, the Marine Corps has taken drastic measures in order to eradicate sexual assault from its ranks. Regardless, the Corps is being recognized and condemned for the continual increase of sexual assaults being reported. I believe this is based on a false perception that the Marine Corps is doing very little to prevent this offense from occurring. On the contrary, the Marine Corps is working aggressively to combat this crime. The increase is not due to more instances surfacing, it is a result of victims knowing their reporting options and whom to report to the crime to.

As a prior Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) of Marine Corps Bases Japan and later 3d Marine Division, in addition to being one of three trainers of SARCs and Uniformed Victim Advocates (UVAs) throughout Marine Corps, I have participated with and witnessed the successful evolution of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program. Since 2007 until 2010, I was part of transforming a mostly non-existent program to one that was commended by U.S. Forces Japan, the Commandant of the Marine Corps' (CMC) Inspector General Team, the Secretary of the Navy Review Team, and the Defense Task Force on Sexual Assault. This was not done alone. It was done with a combined team of professionals from areas of: legal, investigative services, Marine Corps Community Services, religious support, and the medical field. I immediately recognized as more specialized training was given to Marines, Commanders, Chaplains, and lawyers, Marines found more confidence in the program and their chain of command. Victims starting believing the system worked, and the Marine Corps was truly enforcing a zero tolerance of sexual assaults. Victims began not only reporting the crime, but getting the help they needed to begin recovery. Hearing first hand accounts from victims, walking them through the healing process, and witnessing the overall investigative and adjudication process, I know the system works. What should be recognized is the Department of Defense (DoD) did not even establish a SAPR program until 2005, as mandated by Congress. As a result, each of the military services then followed suit. Now that there is an effective program and a process of reporting sexual assaults, the high numbers give a false impression there is an increase in the "action," but in truth it is an increase in reporting, and better accountability than in the past.

I pulled many reports from the DoD SAPRO website. Throughout my research, I found as time went by, direction and guidance given to services by the DoD was much more thorough and detailed. DoD's efforts most definitely appeared to have guided the Marine Corps on the right path, as I know the Corps will continue to press on. The Corps went from a reactionary mode to a prevention and response mode. The Marine Corps has Marines' best interest and well being at heart. The Corps should be commended for the efforts taken to rid the Corps of the heinous offense of sexual assault. In addition, so should those personnel in direct support of the SAPR program.

I have been fortunate to keep contact with individuals I have worked with in the past during my duties as a legal officer, a SARC, and a SARC/UVA trainer. For my research, I have been working with the Marine Corps Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO), and the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate to the CMC. The director of SAPRO, Colonel Michael Hudson, of Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps (HQMC) has provided not only his valuable time, but also a wealth of information in regards to the evolution of the program and the direction it is heading in. In addition, Major Kimberly Mobley, Operations Officer of HQMC SAPRO provided me an endless amount of references and directives pertaining to SAPR policy and current initiatives, in a very expedient manner. Major Suzan Thompson, SAPR liaison, Office of the SJA to the Commandant of the Marine Corps also provided not only information regarding current legal directives and policies, but explained each one in depth during a very lengthy interview. Upon my request, both Colonel Hudson and Major Thompson reviewed a draft of this report in order to assist with ensuring the HQMC SAPR program and legal areas were captured clearly and thoroughly. As busy as they both are, they always found the time to assist me.

I was also very fortunate to receive the assistance of Jennifer Hlad, a *Stars and Stripes* reporter. She provided me insight in regards to various articles she has written on the topic, and the changes she has observed in regards to how assaults are reported and responded to. Her contributions were based on articles she has written on sexual assaults in the military. I would also like to thank her husband, Major Toby Hlad, one of my Conference Group classmates. Once he became aware of my thesis, he immediately linked me up with his wife.

I would like to give special acknowledgement to Major General Angela Salinas, Director of Manpower Management Division, Manpower & Reserve Affairs, HQMC. She provided me her insight and overall views regarding the cultural changes the Corps has experienced throughout her years in the Corps, and how they have impacted the reporting of sexual assaults. Having a Major General contribute to this report is absolutely priceless. Major General Salinas' experience and leadership in the Corps, along with her genuine concern for the welfare of Marines, is remarkable and most definitely inspirational.

It would have been difficult for me to complete this paper without the support I received from my Faculty Advisor, Commander Russell Evans. Without his leadership and mentorship, I may not have pursued this topic, and continued to write a paper regarding Japan. However, he knew how much this area meant to me and paved the way for me to change my topic. If it wasn't for him, I may have never written this paper. I am very grateful to him.

My final acknowledgement is for my mentor, Dr. Richard DiNardo. His expertise covers an array of areas, such as: German Army of World War II, Operational Art, Leadership, and the American Civil War. Throughout the entire process, Dr. DiNardo ensured I never lost sight of supporting my thesis and always kept me on track. His genuine concern for such a sensitive issue in our Corps, and his overall support was phenomenal. I consider myself extremely lucky to be under his tutelage.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title: Sexual Assaults in the Marine Corps: Really Increasing?

Author: Major Sally Ann Falco, United States Marine Corps

Thesis: Though it may appear the amount of sexual assault reporting has increased in the Marine Corps, there is substantial reason to believe it is the result of better reporting, an increase in awareness training, and better response measures being taken.

Discussion: In recent years, there have been various reports of sexual assaults increasing throughout the Marine Corps. However, many may fail to recognize the significant factors contributing to the increase of sexual assault reporting. In the past, there was confusion in regards to: defining sexual assault, victims unaware of reporting options, investigations not being conducted properly, low prosecution rates, and there not being proper documentation of assaults. In accordance with Department of Defense policy and the Uniform Code of Military Justice the Marine Corps has now clearly defined sexual assault, ensuring it does not get mistaken as sexual harassment. The Marine Corps has also educated Marines on how to report sexual assaults, providing various outlets, such as: commander's policy letters, help-lines, websites, and by placing individuals possessing confidentiality, such as Uniformed Victim Advocates, within the commands. Victims now know whom they can go to, with the understanding they can request their report remain restricted and confidential, thus no command involvement or investigation. Numerous Commanders have also been educated in regards to how to handle and adjudicate sexual assaults; ensuring investigations of the offense are done only by Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS), as required by the Secretary of the Navy. This has contributed to not only more thorough investigations being done by professionals, but better accountability of the offenses. Along with Commanders, agents of NCIS, chaplains, and lawyers also receive specialized Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) training. Authorized trainers, such as Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARCs) and Uniformed Victim Advocates (UVAs), provide the training in order to ensure the training is covered properly, in depth, and is standardized. This study does not intend to justify the prevalence of sexual assaults occurring in the Marine Corps, but rather seeks to acknowledge the Marine Corps has taken aggressive measures in order to eradicate the occurrences altogether by: continuously improving training measures, treating victims with care, dignity and respect, and holding offenders accountable.

Conclusion: Over the years, the Marine Corps' continues to improve its SAPR program. Instead of being criticized, the Marine Corps should be commended for its efforts. The public should be made aware of these efforts through media outlets. When past measures, compared to current measures, are viewed, it may be recognized the increase in reporting is a result of a better system being in place in order to identify and report the crime. Victims, who in the past did not report, are now reporting and being providing optimal victim services.

"Marines...we have a significant issue with Sexual Assault inside our Corps - let me be clear on how I view this and where I stand. Sexual assault is an ugly mark on our proud reputation; it goes against everything we claim to be as United States Marines... it is a crime."

- Gen James F. Amos, Commandant

Introduction

Sexual assault is a terrible crime that not only causes traumatic damage to a victim, but also may negatively impact a victim's family and friends. In the Marine Corps, it may even cripple an entire command. The Marine Corps takes pride in its history and traditions, especially for possessing an exceptional degree of camaraderie. Historically, the Marine Corps has been known as: "A Force in Readiness," "A Few Good Men," and "First to Fight." Now, the Marine Corps is also being recognized, especially by the media, and through various random surveys, for having a sexual assault problem within its ranks.¹ There is much criticism due to Marines hurting one another, as evidenced by an increase in sexual assaults, 333 in fiscal year (FY) 11, reported over the last few years.² Though it may appear the amount of sexual assaults reported have increased in the Marine Corps, there is substantial evidence it is the result of: better reporting, an increase in awareness training, and better response measures being taken. The Marine Corps has made arduous efforts to: clearly define sexual assault, provide Marines better guidance for reporting restricted and unrestricted reports, improve training standards, provide the best victim services, properly conduct investigations, hold offenders accountable, and properly account for reports of sexual assault through a credible tracking system. In order to understand how the Marine Corps has developed, implemented and prioritized the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program, it is very important to be educated on the initiatives and background driving the changes.

Background

Prior to reporting, investigating, or responding to a sexual assault, it is critical Marines are aware of what a sexual assault is. However, prior to 2004, as a service, the Marine Corps had not clearly defined the crime of sexual assault. Furthermore, the Marine Corps did not have a written policy issuing any form of guidance addressing the specific needs of sexual assault victims and related issues. As a result of repeated sexual assaults at the military service academies, it was recognized by Congress, it was imperative all services needed to establish a SAPR policy.³ Particularly, an investigation of allegations of sexual assault and misconduct at the U. S. Air Force Academy spurred Congress to further investigate the matter.

In January 2003, the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff received allegations of widespread sexual assault problems at the U. S. Air Force Academy (USAFA) and immediately began an investigation. “Based on preliminary input from the working group, the Secretary of the Air Force adopted an “Agenda for Change” and began corrective actions in May 2003. Subsequently, at congressional direction, the Secretary of Defense (OSD) appointed a seven- member panel headed by former Congresswoman Tillie K. Fowler to investigate reports that at least 56 cadets had been sexually assaulted at the USAFA since 1993.”⁴ The completion of the investigation produced various recommendations, including the Academy establishing a policy in regards to how to handle reported sexual assaults; ensuring prevention measures were also taken to prevent them, and account for them. Determinations were made by the panel in regards to not only changes and laws, but also whether or not the academies should be included in the Department of Defense (DoD) database known as the Defense Incident Based Reporting System. It was apparent that accountability of sexual assaults was skewed, and not being reported properly.

The key to the report of the investigation at the academy noted by the chairperson, Fowler, recognized eradicating sexual assault would take time. Fowler stated in her report, “While I believe that the recommendations contained in this report are the beginning of the solution to the problem of sexual assault at the U.S. Air Force Academy, they are just that: a beginning. It is clear from our review of nearly a decade of efforts to solve this problem that the common failure in each of those efforts was the absence of sustained attention to the problem and follow-up on the effectiveness of the solution.”⁵

Soon after, alleged sexual assaults throughout other military academies and the military operating forces spurred Congress to take further action in identifying and combatting sexual assaults. Due to reports of allegations of sexual assaults on service members deployed in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Health Protection and Readiness) directed a review of how the DoD handled the treatment of and care for victims of sexual assault, paying particular attention to any special issues that surfaced due to being in a combat theater.⁶ The focus appeared to be on reporting of sexual assaults, including the availability of private channels for reporting such issues within combat theaters. The Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) was also concerned with ensuring victims of sexual assault were properly treated, and their medical and psychological needs were met properly, ensuring policies and programs were effective.⁷

The concerns of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) prompted the creation of a Defense Task Force to investigate sexual assaults throughout the military. The task force consisted of members within and outside of the DoD. The following offices provided representatives: Staff Judge Advocate, Civil Rights of the Department of Education, Center of Disease Control and Prevention of the Department of Health and Human Services, Sexual

Assault Policy and Education Organization, Civilian Law Enforcement Agency, Judicial Police Organization, National Crime Victim Organization, and members from all military services, equally.⁸ The task force was led by Ms. Ellen Embrey, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Health, Protection, and Readiness, and charged the task force to report back in 90 days with recommendations.

A significant product of the task force was a recommendation to establish a single point of accountability for a sexual assault policy within the DoD. This led to the establishment of the Joint Task Force for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, and the naming of then Brigadier General Karen C. McClain, U. S. Air Force, as its commander in October 2004. The task force focused its initial efforts on developing a new DoD-wide sexual assault policy that incorporated recommendations set forth in the Task Force Report on Care for Victims of Sexual Assault as well as in the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (PL108-375). This act directed the Department to have a sexual assault policy in place by January 1, 2005.⁹

In January 2005, DoD presented to Congress a comprehensive policy on prevention and response to sexual assault. The policy provides a foundation for the Department to improve prevention of sexual assault, significantly enhance support to victims and increase reporting and accountability.”¹⁰ Again, it is pointed out reporting and accountability of sexual assaults required improvement. Not until the recommendations of the group were provided, actions were then taken with establishing SAPR programs within all of the services. The DoD issued DoD Directive 6495.01, SAPR Policy, in October 2005 and transitioned into a permanent office.

Acting upon the DoD direction, the Department of the Navy (DON) issued guidance and

direction to the Navy and the Marine Corps by issuing Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Instruction 1752.4, SAPR. The order covered various areas including victim reporting and response measures to be taken. Two key elements that were produced by this order was the definition of a sexual assault and addressed the requirement to establish a reporting system. The DON defined sexual assault as including rape, indecent assault, forcible sodomy, assault with intent to commit rape, and assault with intent to commit sodomy, as those offenses are defined in the Manual for Courts-Martial (MCM).

The Marine Corps, in keeping with the DoD and DON, also defined sexual assault as: “The intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, physical threat or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual Assault includes rape, nonconsensual sodomy (oral or anal sex), indecent assault (unwanted, inappropriate sexual contact or fondling), or attempt to commit these acts.”¹¹ On September 28, 2004, the Marine Corps issued policy in the form of a Marine Corps Order (MCO), 1752.5 SAPR Program.¹² The purpose of the order was: to address the specific needs of sexual assault victims and related issues by defining sexual assault and required reporting procedures; establish procedures to protect the victims’ privacy; establish a mandatory, standardized sexual assault victim assistance program for service members; and implement a database to track sexual assault trends throughout the Marine Corps. Again, this makes it evident, prior to this order being effective; there was no formal way of tracking sexual assaults throughout the Marine Corps, nor clear guidance in regards to how to report an assault. Therefore, regardless of the number of assaults occurring, there was a perception that there was neither validity nor reliability to previous accountability records. This was the case because, clearly, if individuals did not know how, where, or whom to report sexual assaults to, they may have gone unreported altogether.

Sexual Assault Reports

As mandated by the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), Congress directed the DoD to collect annual sexual assault reports no later than the 31 January for the prior fiscal year. In adherence to the NDAA, the Marine Corps submitted Sexual Assault Reports to DON, who then submitted them to DoD.¹³ Once the DON received the reports from the Marine Corps, DON provided a combined report, including Navy matters, to the DoD as required by the NDAA. (www.apr.mil/index.php/annual-reports). Included in the reports were not only numbers of assaults occurring, but also a brief description of action and initiatives taken in support of the program. Since the first report of Annual Year 2004 was provided by the DoD to Congress, there have been significant changes to not only the report changing to a fiscal report, but the content of the report as well (See Appendix A). The content included preventive measures utilized, various forms of training implemented, amount of sexual assaults reported, Commander's initiatives, and actions of responders. It should be recognized, as time has gone by, in sync with the DoD, the Marine Corps' measures taken in regards to prevention and response of sexual assaults has increased drastically. Particularly, the Marine Corps went from providing one paragraph worth of information to DON in its first report submission, CY 2004, to twenty-five pages worth of information contained in the FY 2011. It can be immediately recognized that since the establishment of the SAPR program, the Marine Corps has significantly increased action and initiatives in regards to combatting sexual assaults.

It is easy to believe that being more proactive and acting more aggressive with the program has resulted in more victims coming forward to report their assaults. The following is a partial list of key areas that have changed throughout the years within the Marine Corps SAPR Program, as reported through the Marine Corps' annual sexual assault reports: training of Marines and

first responders, victim services, new initiatives, Commandant of the Marine Corps' (CMC) effective guidance, trend analysis, adjudication of cases, and quantity/description of cases reported. The annual reports also evolved in order to distinguish the difference between the amount of restricted and unrestricted reports, demographics, combat areas of interest, the type of sexual assault alleged and the investigative and disposition of all cases.

Victims of sexual assault have the option of reporting a sexual assault as a “restricted” or “unrestricted” report. Restricted Reporting is a process used by military members to report or disclose that they are the victims of a sexual assault to specified officials on a requested confidential basis. If a victim gives the report, to a Health Care Provider (HCP), Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), Victim Advocate (VA), or counselor, the report may remain confidential. Therefore, the report will not be reported to law enforcement, or the victim’s command, resulting in no investigation being done. The main goal with this is, even though the offender cannot be held accountable, the victim can receive victim services. There are a few exceptions to this type of reporting, such to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the health or safety of the victim or another. The conflict with this form of reporting is that certain states have mandated reporting for all alleged sexual assaults that are reported to HCP (See Appendix A, Table 1). Even though the Marine Corps provides the victim an option, a state such as California can take it away. This happens when medical care is sought in California, including aboard military installations. All medical personnel in California are required to report alleged sexual assaults to law enforcement.¹⁴ The Marine Corps cares so much for the availability of this option for a victim that Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC) SAPRO is pursuing Memorandums of Understanding/Agreement with various states in order to waive the mandated reporting of sexual assaults where the victim is a service member.¹⁵ With a victim

finding the courage to make an unrestricted report, the victim not only will receive victim services, but also will also have the option to change the report to an unrestricted report.

An unrestricted report is a report in which a formal investigation is conducted by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). This type of report must be done voluntarily by a victim, but is the only option for another service member who witnesses an alleged or actual sexual assault. It is very critical that Marines know they are mandatory reporters of an alleged or actual sexual assault. Without Marines being aware of this requirement in the past, it may have been very likely many sexual assaults went unreported. Witnesses did not know where to or whom to report the crime to. Since commanders are now required to publish a SAPR policy, members of the command are informed of the reporting options and requirements, and, most importantly, the process in which to do both.¹⁶ This alone may have a significant impact on the rise in sexual assaults being reported. This is a result of sexual assaults not only reported by victims but also by witnesses and individuals who are aware of the alleged offence being committed.

Reviewing the dramatic changes and methods implemented, along with initiatives taken by the Marine Corps in regards to the SAPR program over the years, it is apparent much care, time and effort has been applied. This is especially the case in areas of not only Commanders publishing guidance and direction, but also with improving training for Commanders, Marines and first responders.

Training

The Marine Corps has made it apparent it takes pride in educating and training Marines in all areas. This has been very evident with the SAPR curriculum, which has evolved from annual training to more of a specialized and continuous form of training. Not only do Marines receive annual, pre/post deployment and newcomer's training, they now receive training immediately

upon entering the Marine Corps, as early as recruit training and officer candidate training. The Marine Corps is currently tailoring training to better suit an individual's rank, billet and experience.

The Marine Corps recognizes that training may be better presented and retained if tailored to an individual's rank, billet, and experience. Over the years the Marine Corps has implemented various training venues to better support Commanders and Marines. This has been done by providing specialized training to: Commanders, Senior Leadership, Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs), junior Marines, and first responders. Chaplains, judge advocates, NCIS agents, Criminal Investigative Division (CID) agents, Provost Marshall Office (PMO) personnel, and HCP also received individualized training from subject matter experts (SME) of SAPR. This is especially important being individuals in certain billets or of a certain rank may have to deal with SAPR issues they are not accustomed to. Most importantly, individuals also must know how to report a sexual assault and assist a victim with any services required. The training is also now more interactive than in the past in order to engage the audience more. A very effective presentation in which the audience is engaged is "Sex Signals".¹⁷ The audience is engaged much more than they were during training venues in the past, such as during PowerPoint presentations. SMEs from the civilian and military community have also been brought in to assist. Training no longer appears to be a "check in the box" once a year. It tends to aim at providing tools to Marines in order for them to retain and better apply the valuable lessons they are taught during training.

Such commendable efforts as providing such in-depth training, may have affected the amount of sexual assaults reported. Throughout or after the training, victims sometimes come forth to report alleged assaults. This is very good being that victims find the confidence to report the

assault. Sometimes the training erases any doubt of whether or not an individual was a victim by clearly defining the crime. Training also amplifies the requirement that all Marines are mandatory reporters of the crime. Being the training is given by SMEs, such as UVAs or SARCs, Marines also now know whom to report to. Not only has training for Marines improved, but the training of SARCs and UVAs has also evolved dramatically in an extremely favorable way.

SARCs and UVAs initially were required to receive 3-4 days of training provided by a mobile training team from SAPRO, HQMC. The training was created by SAPRO and administered by two individuals on their staff, a lawyer and a retired Sergeant Major. The issue with this was they were the only two individuals authorized to provide SARC/UVA training throughout the Marine Corps and did not necessarily possess the required skills to do so. Being one of the goals of training was not to exceed fifty students per class and was provided annually to various commands, it was not possible, nor cost effective for the MTT to train the required amount of personnel requested by commands, especially being some had no UVAs. Soon after, a position paper submitted by the Marine Corps Bases Japan (MCBJ) SARC was approved by SAPRO, which made her the third person authorized to train SARCs/UVAs. The approval was based on her having a Baccalaureate of Science Degree in Criminal Justice and a Baccalaureate of Administration Degree in Social Psychology, in addition to it being more cost effective and more supportive to commands geographically displaced from CONUS. However, her authority was limited to only train individuals aboard MCBJ, and Marine Corps Base (MCB) Hawaii. SAPRO then recognized there was a need for additional UVA/SARC trainers throughout the Marine Corps.

HQMC employed Program Managers (PM) aboard every installation and authorized them to provide training for SARCs and UVAs. The individuals selected were all SMEs from the civilian

community. This was an amazing accomplishment, from having only three trainers in the entire Marine Corps to a SAPR PM aboard each installation. This made it very evident the Marine Corps worked diligently to support Commanders in their pursuit of having, at a minimum, the required amount of two UVAs per command. Especially important is that UVA and SARC training is now forty hours, is standardized by DoD, and accredited by the National Organization of Victim Advocates (NOVA). This has resulted in setting UVAs and SARCs up for success, by educated them extremely well, being they play an integral role with victim care and services.

Victim Care and Services

Providing more than adequate victim care and services to sexual assault victims is essential to the reporting, recovery, and healing process. Since the SAPR program was implemented, the Marine Corps has worked diligently to make all individuals aware of the program and ensure victims of sexual assault receive the best services possible by utilizing various methods. When the program was first initiated, it did not appear there were very many methods employed to inform Marines of what a sexual assault was, the reporting of it, or the services provided. There are now: 24/7 services provided, help-lines, command websites, UVAs in every command, command policy letters/orders, various training venues, and Medical Treatment Facility (MTF) support (see Appendix B, Figures 1, 2 and 3). Some MTFs have Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) available in order to ensure the Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence (SAFE) exams are administered properly. MTFs also support the SAPR program through coordination with Behavioral Health and the Bureau of Medicine (BUMED), working with SAPRO in order to ensure victims are treated properly. Being it is very important to prevent re-victimization, SAPRO, an advocate for the victim, works diligently to ensure programs and policies are established and implemented in order to support potential or actual victims of sexual assault.¹⁸

In order to better support victims, one of the requirements established by HQMC is for Installation Commanders to hold a monthly Case Management Review Committee (CMRC) meeting. At a minimum, the following billet holders attend the CMRC meeting: SARC, UVAs, NCIS, PMO, CID, command representatives, chaplain, and medical personnel. In other words, any billet holder who has information, or an impact on providing an update of a sexual assault case or victim services, taking into consideration restricted reports can not reveal certain information, especially the identify of the victim. One of the goals of the meeting is to ensure victims' cases are progressing in a timely fashion; ensuring victims are receiving optimal care from all responders involved with the case. Aware of this, victims may find more courage to continue to participate with the possible adjudication of the case and continue the healing process. Healing can be heavily dependent upon the type and timelines of services provided. This is also the case with the initial reporting of the alleged sexual assault.

Sexual assault victims appear to be reporting at a higher rate than in the past due as a result of: better services, education, and training. The better services victims receive does not only include advocacy, religious, counseling and medical services; command support should also be recognized. With commanders engaging their Marines, publishing policy in regards to sexual assaults not being tolerated, victims being treated with dignity and respect, and offenders being held accountable, Marines may have found more trust and confidence in their leadership. Leadership includes the top down approach, from the CMC to the NCO. In order to better support victims and remove them from a possible threat or hostile environment, commands are now authorized to immediately transfer an alleged victim of a sexual assault if an unrestricted report was filed and the victim request to be transferred.¹⁹ Victims may now have more trust in the overall system, which appears to be working much better than in the past. Because of this

trust in their commands, and the possibility of being transferred with a commander's approval, another increase in sexual assaults reported may occur. This is especially the case if the victim and alleged offender work in the same command, or geographical location. Once the victim makes the request to be transferred, it is the Commander's option whether or not to transfer the victim. However, Commanders have no option in regards to investigating alleged sexual assaults, as they are required to be investigated by NCIS.²⁰

Investigations

In the past, investigations of sexual assault were at times conducted by commands, CID, and/or NCIS, which may have resulted in the perception investigations were not done accurately, timely, or thoroughly. Some may have even been led to believe the investigations had potential to have been biased. Unfortunately, at times, commanders may have taken into consideration if the alleged offender had the potential or was capable of committing a sexual assault instead of immediately gathering the facts surrounding the allegations. "Differentiating between the reporting of an alleged sexual assault reported in 2006, and an alleged sexual assault reported in 2010, both occurring at 8th & I, it appears commanders now recognize they must adhere to the mandated investigative process regardless of the character of the alleged offender or victim before making any decisions."²¹

In the past, decisions made by commanders determined the level of investigation and appointed an individual within the command to conduct the investigation. At times commanders may have appointed inexperienced personnel from various occupational specialties. Being sexual assault investigations may be very complex, it is very important to appoint sexual assault investigators with special and focused training in order to conduct the best investigation possible.

Since this was not always done in the past, it may have caused victims to lose faith in the investigative process. It is imperative victims have faith in the investigative process, and it is done in an unbiased, thorough, and timely fashion. If this is not done, victims may not have the confidence to report a sexual assault because they may feel the allegations will not be acted upon fairly. This may even cause them to lose overall trust in their leadership. Therefore, it is imperative investigations are done properly and by experienced personnel such as NCIS investigators who now receive more focused and specialized sexual assault training through the Adult Sexual Assault Program (ASAP).²²

Currently, the only investigative agency authorized to conduct an investigation of an alleged (or attempted) adult sexual assault aboard on a Marine Corps or Naval facility, regardless of the severity of it, is NCIS.²³ However, if a sexual assault occurs aboard facilities of another service, the appropriate Military Criminal Investigative Organization (MCIO) must conduct the investigation. NCIS is also now mandated to fully document the reason why an investigative report is transferred to another agency and whether or not they will be involved in a joint investigation or monitoring capacity. Being NCIS is recognized as an external agency not in the chain of command, victims of a sexual assault may find more confidence and faith in reporting sexual assaults. Again, the quantity of reports of sexual assault may now have the potential once again to increase. This is not saying that Marines do not have faith their commanders are capable of conducting a fair and impartial investigation, it just means that there is much less doubt the possibility of even the slightest amount of bias will exist. All Marines should understand that commanders do not take the side of the victim or the alleged offender. Commanders ensure victims are provided outlets to report, receive any victim services desired, and contact NCIS in order to investigate any alleged or attempted sexual assaults. However, at the same time,

commanders must protect the rights of the alleged offender.

Legal

It is understood that Commanders are to treat members of their command fairly and equitably. This is especially the case with not only victims, but also with alleged offenders. Alleged offenders still have their rights as afforded to them by the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) and Constitution of the United States of America. This means that alleged offenders are presumed to be innocent until their guilt is established by legal and competent evidence beyond a reasonable doubt. Congress has echoed this as they “abandoned a house-passed proposal within the NDAA of 2012 that would have required allegations of a sexual assault or harassment be part of a member’s personal records even if there had been no formal administrative or punitive action taken.”²⁴ However, there are similar provisions mandating the tracking of those previously accused of sexual assault.²⁵ This makes it imperative the adjudication of alleged sexual assaults are not only done fairly, but also with support provided from legal experts to commanders.

The Marine Corps has drastically improved the amount of legal support and sage legal advice provided to Commanders. “The Commandant of the Marine Corps directed a reorganization of Marine Corps legal support to provide for greater levels of individual proficiency, organizational efficiency, and institutional accountability.” (MARADMIN 416/12) In order to better support the two distinct and competing legal support missions, a garrison mission to process increasingly complex courts-martial and an operational mission to provide command legal advice to battlefield commanders, the Marine Corps model for the provision of legal services support was completely revamped.²⁶ This new organization established four regional Legal Services Support

Sections, led by a judge advocate in the grade of Colonel, designed to ensure that the right counsel – both trial and defense – with the appropriate expertise, supervision, and support staff, is assigned to the right case, regardless of location.

Additionally, each region has a Regional Trial Counsel office that gives the Marine Corps a Special Victims Capability. The centerpiece of these Regional Trial Counsel offices is the Complex Trial Team, composed of experienced senior prosecutors. These regional offices also contain criminal investigators, a legal administrative officer, paralegal support, and Highly Qualified Experts. The Highly Qualified Experts are experienced civilian prosecutors who provide training, mentoring, and advice on trial strategy and tactics to all military prosecutors in the region. All of these legal system improvements ensure that the interests of victims are protected while ensuring the alleged offender receives the due process rights guaranteed by the Constitution.²⁷

The withholding of initial disposition authority in certain sexual assault cases has been implemented by the OSD and CMC in order to elevate the decision making level in sexual assault cases to a higher commander. Only commanders in the grade of O-6 or above who possess special court-martial convening authority (referred to as the “Sexual Assault Initial Disposition Authority”) are permitted to decide, “whether further action is warranted and, if so, whether the matter should be resolved by court-martial, non-judicial punishment, or adverse administrative action.” At no time are those commanders authorized to allow a subordinate commander to make a decision on what action will or will not be taken in a sexual assault case.²⁸ A very important note is the Sexual Assault Initial Disposition Authority must consult with the command SJA prior to making any decisions. This includes the possibility of deferring disciplinary action for any collateral misconduct by the alleged victim until after final disposition

of the more serious sexual assault case.

When an alleged sexual assault victim has committed collateral misconduct, a victim may decide not to report the sexual assault. This may be a result of fear by the victim receiving disciplinary action prior to the alleged sexual assault being investigated and/or alleged offender being held accountable for the crime. The victim may also feel his or her credibility may be in question, due to his or her possible violations of rules and/or regulations. Therefore, the CMC has provided guidance to commanders in regards for them to respond to the alleged sexual assaults prior to any form of action being taken against an alleged victim.²⁹ With this being said, reports of sexual assault may increase due to the alleged victim understanding and appreciating commanders are more concerned about their welfare and holding alleged offenders accountable other than the victim being charged for an offense possibly not related to the assault.

Accountability of Cases

Accounting for reported sexual assaults in the Marine Corps has not appeared to be satisfactory in the past. The Marine Corps most recently used the Sexual Assault Incident Reporting Database (SAIRD). Individuals authorized to input cases were given permission by SAPRO. There were no measures of effectiveness established in order to ensure all required cases were input, tracked and accounted for properly. Furthermore, there was no way to perform a trend analysis other than going into each individual field, including disposition of cases, and doing a manual breakdown. However, the results may not have been valid or reliable as a result of the incomplete submission of reports being input into the system. As a result, the Marine Corps is now using the Defense Sexual Assault Incident Reporting Database (DSAID). SAPRO will still remain the lead on reviewing, tracking, and accounting for all sexual assaults reported.

However, they will continue to work closely with NCIS, and the command SJA in order to ensure updates and the final disposition of cases is input into the database. Even with a better accountability of sexual assaults reported, and the tremendous amount of effort the Marine Corps has put into the SAPR program, it is imperative other changes be made in order to continue the battle to eradicate the offense altogether.

Actions to Correct

Even though it is evident the Marine Corps has taken enormous strides in order to prevent sexual assaults in the Marine Corps, there are other measures that can be taken in order to permanently rid the Corps of this crime. The Marine Corps' prevention measures are very impressive as the Corps continues to improve its' awareness campaign, and training standards. The following are recommendations to support and continue the Marine Corps' progress with the SAPR program:

- Continue to increase the quality and quantity of education/training capability
- Ensure all individuals understand sexual assault is not tolerated
- Create and maintain an environment receptive to help Marines
- Remove uncertainty, making it clear if you hurt one, you hurt all
- Continue to perform trend analysis
- All Marines must exercise their basic leadership principles, i.e. "Know your Marines"
- Promote and utilize the Marine Corps Mentorship Programs

- Practice “Engaged Leadership”

- Marines must understand what consent is

- Keep SAPR connected to the commander

- Immediately reset moral compass if Marines are drifting

- Maintain the same level of values based training

- Stay connected, energy level high, prepared for turnover

- Know all Marines are susceptible of being a victim or an offender

- Measures of effectiveness: victim care and SAPRO, NCIS and investigations, legal and adjudication, advising and informing the commander throughout the process

Conclusion

“Marines understand they are their brother and sisters keeper” (Colonel Hudson, SAPRO) Honor, Courage, and Commitment and loyalties to God, Country and the Corps has been the epitome of maintaining the Marine Corps’ customs and traditions. It has also resulted as Marines being known as the “Nation’s 911 Force”. However, the Marine Corps’ reputation has been significantly tarnished by the increase in sexual assaults reported. Many may notice the efforts made by the Marine Corps, but may believe they are not fast enough. Unfortunately, it does not appear there is enough effort put into informing those condemning the Marine Corps that the increase may be a result of better reporting, an increase in awareness training, and better response measures being taken.

Victims are not the only reporters of sexual assaults; other Marines who are mandatory reporters of any attempted or alleged sexual assault also do it. Over the years the Marine Corps has echoed this through command policy letters, CMC guidance, and through various forms of training. Marines also know how, whom, and where to report. Providing victims reporting options, especially in regards to restricted reporting, victims may have found more confidence in reporting the crime. They understand they can receive victim services without the crime being investigated and remaining confidential. This may prevent them from getting labeled or stigmatized by others for reporting the assault. Yet, victims may still decide to report using the unrestricted reporting process due to victims not being labeled as they may have been in the past. “Fortunately, it appears the culture is changing, whereas victims may be more prone to reporting a sexual assault.” (Major General Angela Salinas). This can be credited to the Marine Corps for providing the “top-down” approach.

With the CMC taking personal action and mandating senior leadership do the same, Marines have surely found confidence in the system and their leadership. “Classes are being held, not only by 21-year-old Corporals, but the General Officer, the Colonel, and the Sergeant Major. So this is a fight. It won’t be won this year or next. Will we get there? We’re part of society. But, we are determined to eradicate sexual assault in the Marine Corps. It’s a personal thing with me.”³⁰ With so many competing priorities, the CMC has made it clear that he will not tolerate his Marines being harmed in any fashion, especially by a fellow Marine in such a heinous manner. He has also shown during various venues, and by providing an extensive amount of CMC guidance, that any alleged offenders will be held accountable expediently with a fair investigative process and clearly defined judicial proceeding if required. (See Appendix C)

Given the extensive number of initiatives implemented, the enormous amount of restructuring

performed and exceptional victim services provided, it is evident that the Marine Corps has paved a commendable path in the pursuit of eradicating sexual assault from the ranks of the Marine Corps. Because of this, victims and Marines are aware of the SAPR program and have confidence the system works, resulting in an increase of overall reports. It may not be easy to prove that sexual assaults have always been resident in the Marine Corps and just not reported. However when using the analogy, “Driving Under the Influence (DUI) checkpoints will produce more DUIs, it can be related to the strong possibility that the more Marines are made aware of reporting options and what a sexual assault actually is, more sexual assaults will be reported.” (Colonel Hudson) In addition, various sexual assault surveys have been done that produce results of an increase in sexual assaults in the Marine Corps. The validity and reliability of the surveys should be thoroughly reviewed prior to the results being released.

Instead of badgering the Marine Corps for an increase in sexual assaults reported, society needs to recognize victims are given various options and are receiving optimal victim services by credible SMEs. If the actions, in support of the SAPR program, of the past were compared to those of the present, it would not be difficult to accept the Marine Corps cares tremendously for Marines and will never accept even one being abused. At all costs, the Marine Corps will never tire or quit taking care of Marines. When the CMC echoes this on many occasions, not only through words or published guidance, but also by his personal actions, it is clear he leads from the front and his Marines will follow him in his pursuit of ridding the Marine Corps of all sexual assaults. Even with the high operational tempo of Marines spread across the globe, nothing has appeared to hinder these efforts. There may appear to be rust on the armor of the Marine Corps, but if one looks closely, it is surface rust, that is being rubbed out at the speed of light.

APPENDIX A

ANNUAL SEXUAL ASSAULT REPORT ACTIONS AND INITIATIVES

Calendar Year 2004

- Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Office established
- Marine Corps Order 1752.5, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Order signed by the CMC
- UVA program established, providing support to sexual assault victims and Commanders in a deployed environment
- Training instituted at Officer Candidate School, the Basic School, Recruit Depots, and at Commander's courses.
- Marine Corps Common Skills Training Manual requires annual training on sexual assault for Marines in grades E-1 through E-7, and O-1 through O-3

Calendar Year 2005

- Implemented a 24/7 response capability in all locations
- Marine Corps Reserve will have at least two UVAs reporting to the Command SARC
- Instituted the Sexual Assault Case Management Review Committee
- Conducted Training for 721 UVAs, 69 SARCS, 236 chaplains, 49 VAs, 828 Senior Leaders
- Developed and implemented pre-deployment training
- Modified the Sexual Assault Incident Reporting Database (SAIRD)

Calendar Year 2006

- Incorporated add DoD SAPR mandates into the revision of MCO 1752.5
- 24/7 response capability in all locations
- Marine Corps Recruiting Command (MCRC) established policy requiring a VA for all MCRC Recruiting Districts and Recruiting Stations
- Sexual Assault Case Management Committee, a multi-disciplinary group, now meets monthly at every Marine Corps installation world-wide to review individual cases
- Guidance written streamlining SAIRD
- Marine Corps Training and Education Command revised its professional training curricula to include SAPR
- Added finishing touches to a training video for VAs
- Training conducted for 69 SARCs, 1500 VAs, Senior Leaders, and specialties for first responders and multi-disciplinary agencies
- Developed and in process of implementing a Automated Inspection Reporting System (AIRS) to inspect installation sexual assault reporting system for program compliance

Fiscal Year 2007

- Refined MCO 1752.5, revised to codify procedures specify minimum standards for training, ensure conformance to DoD directive, assist commanders in more efficiently executing their responsibilities, and provide for evaluation and assessment of each command
- 2,010 VAs and/or UVAs, 226 SARCS, 1,009 PMO, and 65 personnel from CID were trained to respond to sexual assaults
- Employed Mentor in Violence Prevention program (proactive prevention)
- Employed Catharsis Productions' "Sex Signals", a prevention that targets the "Millennial Generation", which was the Marine Corps' recruitment base
- Work on developing Bystander Intervention curricula

Fiscal Year 2008

- MCO 1752.5a distributed
- AIRS checklist published, evaluating over a dozen commands and separate units, all but one of which had been found to be “mission capable”
- Program funding identified in budget to permit growth in program
- Trained 294 SARC, 2893 VA/UVA, 60 SJAs, 3160 PMO/CID agents
- Each deploying Marine unit, Battalion/Squadron sized or equivalent required to assign at least 2 UVAs
- Training of UVAs/SARCs conducted by SAPRO MTT.
- In final stages of acquiring fulltime civilian personnel to manage SAPR program at its four major installations
- The collateral duty of SARC will be identified on the T/O&E for each installation and command associated with General Courts-Martial Convening Authority
- Revised SAIRD in order to include the new data elements identified by the Sexual Assault Advisory Council for collection and for interoperability with the planned DoD Integrated SAPR Data Collection vehicle
- Final production of the USMC Sexual Assault Awareness video in progress.
- Local Memoranda of Understanding allow reporting to military law enforcement as an option for sexual assault victims who present to a civilian Medical Treatment Facility.
- Continue to participate in the National Sexual Violence Resource Center’s ongoing effort to produce a curriculum for training non-DoD-associated victim advocates who may work with military victims through local community resources, such as rape/crisis centers.

Fiscal Year 2009

- Pertinent CMC guidance remaining in effect: (3) White Letters, (1) ALMAR, (12) MARADIMINS
- Executive Off-Site Brief (Senior Leaders, LtGen-Gen)
- DON Strategic Plan
- Indoctrination of select General Officers at DON SAPR Summit
- Marine Corps SAPR Operational Planning Team and 30/90/180 Day Plan development
- Inspector General of the Marine Corps (IGMC) Sexual Assault Program Review
- Testimony before House Armed Services Committee Military Personnel Subcommittee
- Coordination with TECOM to develop Values-Based Training
- Staffing authorization for fifteen Installation SAPR Program Managers
- Release of “CHOICES”, the Marine Corps SAPR video training supplement
- Chartered a Sexual Assault Executive Steering Committee and Working Group
- Development of a USMC Strategic Communications Plan
- Issued two CMC “White Letters”
- Revitalized “Mentors in Violence Prevention – Marine Corps” train the trainer program at the Staff Non-Commissioned Academies
- Participated with OSD SAPRO in their sponsored “Men Can Stop Rape” program for the “My Duty” social marketing campaign
- Extensive revised training implemented for first responders and SJA

Fiscal Year 2010

- Pertinent CMC guidance in effect: (3) White Letters, (1) ALMAR, (8) MARADMINs
- Worked with the Center for Naval Analysis to execute a study called Risk Mitigation and Response: Applying Best Practices From the Civilian Population to the Marine Corps
- Provided command team training on SAPR roles and responsibilities to 258 commanders
- Had the SAPR Executive Steering Committee and a Senior Leader Working Group in order to advise the CMC of the strategic communication requirements and plan status
- Participated in DON SARC wide summit
- Revising MCO 1752.5A
- Revising AIRS checklist
- 24/7 helpline established at each major installation
- Senior Leaders Seminar
- Distance Learning for Leaders
- SAPR placed under Behavioral Health
- Continued Mentors in Violence Program
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Sexual Assault and Family Support Conference
- Utilized numerous SMEs (7), to foster prevention-related coalitions and networks
- Extensively promoted community awareness through: media, training, etc.

Fiscal Year 2011

- Implemented “Take a Stand” training for NCOs.
- Commanders initiated semi-annual SAPR training in small forums
- Trained more than 118 trial counselors, 136 SARCs (initial/refresher), 730 UVAs (initial/refresher), 376 commanders, and 68 CID agents.
- Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps hosted a Sexual Assault Summit
- SAPR newsletter and SharePoint site for senior leaders developed
- MCO 1752.5B pending signature
- “Sex Signals” performed 71 times across the Corps
- SAPR training implemented at all Installation Welcome Aboard briefs
- Continue to work with SAPR SMEs
- Quarterly teleconferences with key representatives in SAPR field, i.e. BUMED
- Implemented various methods to foster prevention-related coalitions and networks
- Implemented (12) methods to support prevention education and training initiatives and programs for responders, particularly those that impart individual skills associated with bystander intervention or appropriate risk reduction that does not blame victims
- Promoted community education in the area of prevention (i.e. Communications, social marketing, and media initiatives) by (18) different means
- Strengthened service members knowledge and skills by implementing (9) different methods
- Took (18) steps at various installations to publicize reporting options
- Increased climate of confidence associated with reporting by initiating (8) measures
- Implemented (11) initiatives to respond to, or improve the response to, allegations of

sexual assault

- Senior leaders engaged at (12) different venues

Table 1

Overview of Mandatory State Reporting Laws

State	Specific Requirement to Report Sexual Assault	Requirement to Report Non-Accidental or Intentional Injuries	Requirement to Report Injuries Caused by Criminal Conduct	Additional Statutes that may Impact Competent Adult Victims of Sexual Assault
Alabama				
Alaska				X
Arizona			X	X
Arkansas				X
California*	X	X	X	X
Colorado			X	X
Connecticut				X
Delaware				X
Florida		X		X
Georgia		X		
Hawaii				X
Idaho			X	X
Illinois			X	X
Indiana				X
Iowa			X	X
Kansas				X
Kentucky**	X			
Louisiana				X
Maine				X
Maryland				X
Massachusetts***	X			X
Michigan				X
Minnesota				X
Mississippi				X
Missouri				X
Montana				X
Nebraska			X	X
Nevada				X
New Hampshire			X	X
New Jersey			X	X
New Mexico				X
New York				X
North Carolina				X
North Dakota			X	
Ohio			X	X
Oklahoma				
Oregon		X	X	
Pennsylvania			X	X
Rhode Island****	X		X	
South Carolina				X
South Dakota				X
Tennessee				X
Texas				X
Utah			X	X
Vermont				X
Virginia				X
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				X
Wyoming				X

*California requires any health practitioner to report to local law enforcement the following: rape, spousal rape, sodomy, oral copulation, sexual penetration, sexual battery, incest, procuring any female to have sex with another man, and assault with intent to commit mayhem, rape, sodomy, or oral copulation.

**Kentucky requires any person to report abuse or neglect for cases where the perpetrator is the victim's spouse to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

***Massachusetts requires every physician to report rape or sexual assault to the Criminal History Systems Board and to the police of the town where the incident occurred but shall not include the victim's name, address, or any other identifying information. Massachusetts also requires witnesses of aggravated rape and rape to report to an appropriate law enforcement official as soon as reasonably practicable.

****Rhode Island requires any person, other than the victim, who knows or has reason to know that a first degree sexual assault or attempted first degree sexual assault is taking place in his or her presence shall immediately notify the state police or the police department of the city or town in which the assault or attempted assault is taking place.

Source: <http://www.sapr.mil/media/pdf/laws/OverviewofMandatoryStateReportingLaws>

APPENDIX B

CURRENT MARINE CORPS SAPR GUIDANCE

MARINE CORPS ORDER 1752.5a SAPR Policy (Pending Changes/Signature)

IMPLEMENTATION OF MILITARY AND FAMILY LIFE CONSULTANTS (MFLCS)

Date Signed: 2/13/2013 MARADMINS Active Number: 075/13

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE 8- DAY BRIEF

Date Signed: 10/31/2012 MARADMINS Active Number: 624/12

CREDENTIALING CERTIFICATION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE

COORDINATORS VICTIM ADVOCATES AND UNIFORMED VICTIM ADVOCATES

Date Signed: 10/22/2012 MARADMINS Active Number: 610/12

PROVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES SUPPORT

Date Signed: 8/01/2012 MARADMINS Active Number: 416/12

MARINE CORPS SEXUAL ASSAULT 24/7 HELPLINE

Date Signed: 1/25/2012 MARADMINS Active Number: 048/12

REVISED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND
RESPONSE BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TRAINING TAKE A STAND

Date Signed: 6/28/2012 MARADMINS Active Number: 351/12

SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COORDINATOR (SARC) TRAINING

Date Signed: 5/26/2005 MARADMINS Active Number: 248/05

SEXUAL ASSAULT CASE DISPOSITION AND ADMINISTRATIVE SEPARATION
REVIEW LEVEL

Date Signed: 10/24/2005 MARADMINS Active Number: 490/05

STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE (SJA) SEXUAL ASSAULT DATA INPUT RESPONSIBILITIES

Date Signed: 11/29/2006 MARADMINS Active Number: 564/06

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE CAMPAIGN PLAN

INSPECTOR GENERAL AUTOMATED INSPECTION REPORTING FUNCTIONAL AREA
CHECKLIST 963

APPENDIX C

VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICES

Military One Source. <http://www.militaryonesource.mil> 1-800-342-9647

DoD Safe Helpline CALL 1 -877-995-5247 CLICK www.SafeHelpline.org TEXT* 55-247
(inside the U.S.) 202-470-5546 (outside the U.S.)* Text your location for the nearest support resources.

SAPRO Website (DoD) <http://www.sapro.mil>

SAPR Website (USMC) www.manpower.usmc.mil/SAPR

Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network <http://www.rainn.org>

Office of Justice Programs: Victims of Crime <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/programs/victims.htm>

The United States Department of Justice: Office on Violence Against Women:
<http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/sexassault.htm>

National Sexual Violence Resources Center <http://www.nsvrc.org>

Rape Abuse Incest National Network <http://www.rainn.org/>

Violence Against Women Online Resources <http://www.vaw.umn.edu>

Planned Parenthood <http://www.plannedparenthood.org>

Bureau of Justice Statistics <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs>

American Red Cross <http://www.redcross.org>

DOD Victim and Witness Assistance
Program http://www.marines.mil/unit/judgeadvocate/Pages/JAM/JAM_home/VWAP.aspx

Figure 1

MILITARY ONESOURCE WEBPAGE

Follow Military OneSource: [f](#) [t](#)

PHASES OF MILITARY LIFE [v](#) BRANCH OF SERVICE [v](#) THOSE WHO SUPPORT [v](#) LOG IN

Military OneSource *Call. Click. Connect.*

What are you looking for?

800-342-9647 Counseling Options [v](#) Military Life Topics [v](#) Monthly Focus [v](#) Social Media Hub [v](#)

Sexual Assault



 The DoD Safe Helpline provides worldwide live, confidential support, 24/7 online at <https://www.safehelpline.org/> and via their telephone hotline at 1-877-955-5247. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

Sexual assault can happen to anyone at any time. It can be overwhelming and devastating for victims and their families. The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program is available to help provide victims with accurate information, prompt medical care, counseling, and assistance with the military justice system. Use these resources, tools, and articles to learn more about getting the support you need.

The Basics
[About Sexual Assault](#)
[Family Readiness System](#)
[Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program](#)
[The Impact of Sexual Assault Policy and Legislation](#)

Reporting Options
[Reporting Options and Policy Information](#)

Recovery
[Recovering from Sexual Assault](#)

Popular Links
[Army SHARP Program](#)
[Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime](#)
[DoD Victim and Witness Assistance Council](#)
[MCCS: Sexual Assault Prevention and Response \(SAPR\) Program](#)
[Military OneSource Tips](#)
[My Duty](#)
[National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder \(PTSD\)](#)
[National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence](#)
[Navy Sexual Assault Prevention and Response](#)
[Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network \(RAINN\)](#)
[Sexual Assault Prevention and Response \(SAPR\)](#)
[Siridian Institute for Traumatic Stress Education and Advocacy](#)
[US Coast Guard: Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program](#)
[United We Serve](#)
[Women Veterans Health Care](#)

THE LATEST
[Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office](#)
The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) is responsible for oversight of Department of Defense sexual assault policy. Visit their site to find out more about sexual assault prevention and reporting options.

Tools for SERVICE PROVIDERS **Tools for LEADERS/COMMAND**

INSTALLATION PROGRAM DIRECTORY
Find your local Victim Advocate Services Office
Victim Advocate Services [v](#)
Enter the name of an installation [q](#)
[View a directory of installations](#)
Advanced search at [MilitaryINSTALLATIONS](#)

RSS FEED **All RSS**
Stay up to date on all things related to Service and Family Members.
[Subscribe to the Service and Family Member RSS feed](#)

Source: <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/sexual-assault>

Figure 2



Source: <http://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff/G1Manpower/SAPR.aspx>

Figure 3

The screenshot displays the Manpower & Reserve Affairs website. At the top left is the Marine Corps logo with the text "MARINES THE FEW. THE PROUD." and a "MARINES Drill Manager" banner on the right. The main header is "Manpower & Reserve Affairs" with a search bar. Below the header is a navigation menu with tabs for "Active Marine", "Reserve Marine", "Veteran Marine", "Civilian Marine", "Family", and "M&RA Home". On the right side of the header, there are links for "About M&RA", "Contact M&RA", "Log In", "Register", and "Map".

The main content area features a breadcrumb trail: "M&RA Home > Active Marine > MF > Sexual Assault Prevention". On the left is a sidebar for "Sexual Assault Prevention and Response" with links for "Announcements", "FAQ's", "Resources", "Services", and "Training".

The central focus is a red and white graphic for SAPR (Sexual Assault Prevention & Response) with the text "Click for Help & Information Sexual Assault 24/7 Helpline". Below this graphic is a paragraph: "Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) is responsible for providing policies, evidence-based prevention training, and oversight of victim-centric services. The purpose of the SAPR Program is to eliminate incidents of sexual assault through a comprehensive program that centers on awareness and prevention, training and education, reporting, response, victim advocacy, and accountability."

Below the paragraph is a link: "Click below for access to Commanders SAPR ToolKit".

At the bottom center is a photograph of five Marines in uniform standing in front of an American flag. The text overlaid on the photo reads: "It's Time To Remember Who We Are And What We Stand For... It is every Marine's inherent duty to step up and step in to prevent sexual assault."

On the right side of the page, there are three sections: "Contacts" with address and phone information for the M&RA Division; "External Links" with various government and organizational links; and "Reference" with a list of military directives and policies.

Source:

https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/portal/page/portal/M_RA_HOME/MF/D_Sexual%20Assault%20Prevention

Endnotes

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Jennifer Hlad, Reporter for Stars and Stripes.
- ² FY11 Department of Defense (DoD), Sexual Assault Report
- ³ U.S. Congress National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), Fiscal Year 2004 of Nov 24th 2003
- ⁴ DoD, *Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense Report No. IPO2004C003 December* www.defense.gov/new/dec2004
- ⁵ **Fowler Panel** Report of the Panel to Review Sexual Misconduct Allegations at the US Air Force Academy Tillie K. Fowler, Chair, September 2003
<http://www.airforcemagazine.com/SiteCollectionDocuments/TheDocumentFile/Personnel%20Issues/FowlerRpt2003.pdf>
- ⁶ MEMO for the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Health Protection and Readiness), OASD (HA) of FEB 10, 2004 *Department of Defense Care for Victims of Sexual Assaults*
- ⁷ MEMO for the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) of Feb 5, 2004 *Department of Defense Care for Victims of Sexual Assaults*
- ⁸ U.S. Congress National Defense Security Act of 2005
- ⁹ Joint Task Force for Sexual Assault
- ¹⁰ Sexual Assault & Response Office, DoD. <http://www.sapr.mil/index.php/about/mission-and-history>
- ¹¹ Marine Corps Order 1752.A *SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE (SAPR) PROGRAM* MRRS 05 Feb 2008
- ¹² The order has since been revised, and is again pending a revision per SAPRO, HQMC.
- ¹³ Secretary of the Navy Instruction 1752.4 M&RA of 28 Sep 2004 *Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program*
- ¹⁴ California State Reporting Laws. <http://www.sapr.mil/media/pdf/laws/california.pdf>
- ¹⁵ Colonel Hudson, Director, SAPRO, HQMC.
- ¹⁶ MCO 1752.5a and AIRs Checklist FA 963 SAPR
- ¹⁷ “Sex Signals” is a Catharsis Production. It is an interactive training period, lasting 1-2 hours, directed at college age individuals. Improvisation and audience participation is used to explore how social mores, mixed messages, unrealistic fantasies, and false perceptions of the opposite sex can contribute to the misunderstanding and miscommunication often found in dating. The primary goal of the program is to inform participants about acquaintance rape while confronting perpetrator/victim stereotypes and rape myths.
- ¹⁸ Interview with Colonel Hudson, Director, SAPRO, HQMC.
- ¹⁹ DoD Technical Manual (DTM) 11-063
- ²⁰ Depart of Defense Instruction (DODI) 5505.18 of January 25, 2013

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- ²¹ Interview with Jennifer Hlad, Stars and Stripes.
- ²² Interview with Colonel Hudson, Director, SAPRO.
- ²³ *Investigation of Adult Sexual Assault in the Department of Defense*. Department of Defense Instruction, Number 5505.18 of January 25, 2013.
- ²⁴ Stars & Stripes, Feb 4, 2013
- ²⁵ Interview with Major Suzan Thompson, SAPR liaison, Office of the SJA to the Commandant of the Marine Corps
- ²⁶ Major Suzan Thompson, SAPR liaison, Office of the SJA to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, was interviewed and provided an in-depth overview of the revised structure of legal support services provided throughout the Marine Corps.
- ²⁷ Interview with Major Suzan Thompson, SAPR liaison, Office of the SJA to the Commandant of the Marine Corps
- ²⁸ U.S. Marine Corps, Military Justice Branch (JAM) Practice Advisory 1-12 of 17 August 2012
- ²⁹ Commandant of the Marine Corps, MARADMIN 03-05 Collateral Misconduct, and MCO 1752.5a
- ³⁰ *The Huffington Post: Gen. James Amos, Marine Corps Commandant, Vows To End Sexual Assault In Ranks* Posted: 08/28/2012 6:29 pm EDT Updated: 08/28/2012 6:52 pm EDT http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/08/28/gen-james-amos-marine-corps-_n_1837417.html

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