

# Sexual Assault Fact Card For Leaders & Soldiers

“ARE YOU AWARE ?”

AS OF FEB 07

## SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY

- Sexual Assault is a Criminal Offense that has No place in the Military.
- Sexual Assault is a Violation of Military / Army Values; Contradicts the Warrior Ethos and Soldier’s Creed.
- Sexual Assault is Punishable under the UCMJ and other Federal and Local Civilian Laws.
- Sexual Assault degrades Mission Readiness and Unit Cohesion; Devastates Trust within the Unit and Organization and Impacts Combat Effectiveness.
- Every Leader and Service Member who is aware of a Sexual Assault should immediately report the incident to the Chain of Command and Law Enforcement.

## SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCES

- **Area Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)**  
“Center of Gravity” for each AREA SAPR Program; Assigns VAs & UVAs; Provides 24/7 response.
- **Victim Advocate/Unit VA (UVA)**  
REQ: 2 Per BN; Supports the Victim through the process; SME for the Command for Training; Not a Counselor or Social Worker; Does not serve as a UVA for victims within their organization.
- **Deployable SARC (DSARC)**  
REQ: 1 Per BDE size element or higher; SME for CDR; Track & Report UVA Status; Train & Report Training Status to Higher; Serves as SARC when BDE is Deployed.

## RESTRICTED REPORTING OPTION

- Allows Service member victims to receive medical, counseling and advocacy support services without triggering an official investigation or official notification to the Chain of Command.
- To make a Restricted Report the victim MUST report the Sexual Assault to one of the following personnel: SARC, VA/UVA, Health Care Provider (HCP) or a Chaplain.
- Healthcare Providers will initiate the appropriate care and treatment and report the Sexual Assault to the Area SARC in lieu of reporting the assault to Law Enforcement or the Command. At the request of a victim, a VA / UVA will be assigned by the Area SARC.

## UNRESTRICTED REPORTING OPTION

- Allows Service member victims of Sexual Assault the same services as restricted reporting, and allows for a full investigation to include the possibility of a criminal prosecution.
- To make an Unrestricted Report the victim reports the sexual assault to any of the following agencies: SARC, VA/UVA, HCP, Chaplain, Law Enforcement (LE), MCIO, SJA and the Chain of Command (COC).
- An Unrestricted Report requires the Area SARC and HCP to notify LE/COC.
- Details of the incident will be released only to those personnel who have a legitimate need to know.
- Ensures the widest range of rights / protections are afforded to the victim.
- At the request of a victim, a VA / UVA will be assigned by the Area SARC.

## SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION TIPS

- Use the Buddy System
- Avoid Alcohol and other Drugs
- Drink Responsibly
- Establish and Maintain Your Limits
- Alcohol Impairs Judgment and Decision Making
- Never Leave a Drink Alone
- Rely on your Instincts and be Watchful  
In Your CAR or RESIDENCE
- Have Keys Ready; Check Interior before Entering and Lock doors
- For Cars, park in well lighted areas

### **REMEMBER A.S.A.P.**

- BE AWARE
- BE SAFE
- BE ALERT
- BE PREPARED

**CDR & LEADER CHECKLIST**

- Determine if the Victim desires/needs any emergency care.
- Notify AREA SARC immediately.
- Must notify Law Enforcement and Military Criminal Investigation Organization (MCIO).
- Ensure the physical safety and emotional support of the victim.
- Determine if the alleged assailant is still nearby and if the victim desires/needs protection.
- Strictly limit the facts of and details regarding the incident to only those personnel who have a legitimate need to know.
- Do not ask detailed questions/or pressure the victim for responses or information about the incident.

**CDR & LEADER CHECKLIST**

- Do not initiate an internal investigation, this corrupts witnesses and may possibly destroy or cause evidence to be destroyed.
- Take action to safeguard the victim from any formal or informal investigative interviews or inquires, except those conducted by the applicable military criminal investigative agency.
- Collateral Misconduct: CDRs should defer disciplinary action for any victim misconduct until after disposition of the SA case.
- Attend the Area Sexual Assault Review Boards (SARB) conducted by the Area CDR and SARCs and sit in on only the cases that are in your Unit.
- Keep the Victim informed on the status of their case.

**SEXUAL ASSAULT  
DOs & DON'T's**

- DO** Immediately Report the incident to the SARC; Law Enforcement and Appropriate Agencies.
- DO** Listen to the Victim, Without Judgment; Without Giving Advice; Without Asking 'Why' Questions.
- DO** Encourage the Victim to Report the Sexual Assault immediately.
- DO** Suggest Counseling. (Chaplain, Social Work Service Counselors)
- DO** Treat each incident seriously by following proper guidelines.
- DO** Treat All Victims with Dignity, Fairness and Respect.
- DO** Treat Victims as Injured Adults, not as Children. That means don't make all the decisions!

**SEXUAL ASSAULT  
DOs & DON'T's**

- DO** Initiate immediate and appropriate action to ensure a thorough investigation of all incidents of assault.
- DO** Ensure full victim assistance, protection, support & follow-up occurs (Compassionate Care).
- DON'T** Try to investigate the incident yourself. Inform the proper authorities immediately.
- DON'T** Ask the victim what they did to cause the incident. The victim should never be blamed.
- DON'T** Ask the victim why they reacted a certain way.

**SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM**

**ACTIONS:**

- Go to a Safe Place
- Immediately Report the Assault using Available Resources
- Do not Destroy Evidence by "Cleaning Up." (Don't Shower, Douche, Change Clothes, Brush Teeth or Hair)
- Get the Help you Deserve

**RIGHTS OF THE VICTIM:** (AR 27-10)

- Be treated with fairness, dignity and a respect for privacy
- Be protected from offender
- Be notified of court proceedings
- Be present at all public court proceedings related to the offense
- Confer with legal counsel
- Obtain information regarding the current status of the case & the offender's conviction, sentencing, imprisonment and release from custody

**SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCES**

**REPORT A SEXUAL ASSAULT  
TO AN AREA SARC**

**24 HOUR  
SEXUAL ASSAULT HOT LINE**

**DSN  
158**

**CELL or COMMERCIAL**

**0505-764-5700**

**SEXUAL ASSAULT REFERENCES**

- AR 600-20 (CH8); USFK 600-20
- DOD / DA / USFK / EUSA Sexual Assault Websites
- [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com)
- [www.sexualassault.army.mil](http://www.sexualassault.army.mil)
- [www.usfk.mil/old/sa/index.htm](http://www.usfk.mil/old/sa/index.htm)