



## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE OFFICE



### About the Sexual Assault Response Workforce (SARW)

Sexual assault is a crime that harms our warfighters, erodes our readiness, and hinders our ability to field the lethal, resilient, and agile Joint Force that the National Defense Strategy requires. SAPRO provides support and resources that are trauma-informed, responsive to need, appropriate to circumstance, and recovery-oriented. The goals of victim assistance are to promote safety, reduce risk of revictimization, and aid Service members in their return to mission readiness.

Effective victim advocacy requires a permanent and dedicated workforce with specialized skills, knowledge, and competencies to optimize victim support and recovery. DoD is continuing to strengthen military victim advocacy by further professionalizing the SARW to deliver unparalleled advocacy for victims.

#### SARW Mission:

To deliver quality support, advocacy, and recovery assistance to adult sexual assault victims in the DoD community, prioritize compassionate care, advise DoD leaders on response strategies, and foster collaboration among response providers.

#### What is the SARW?

The SARW is a workforce with specialized technical skills and competencies focused on providing victim advocacy and support DoD-wide to adult sexual assault victims. SARW personnel are DoD Sexual Assault Advocate Certification Program (D-SAACP) certified, professional resources who provide consistent and safe access to healing and recovery services. The workforce includes positions such as:

- **SAPR Victim Advocates (VAs)** (GS-11): Work with sexual assault victims to assess assistance needs, explain reporting options, and provide advocacy services
- **Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARCs)** (GS-12): Train and direct SAPR VAs, perform case management, and serve as a single point of contact to coordinate response activities
- **Lead SARC** (GS-13): Supervise SARCs and SAPR VAs, work with military leadership, and manage planning, implementation, and evaluation of SAPR activities at an installation
- **SAPR Program Manager** (GS-14): Serve as the principal point of contact at the operational level on the SAPR program and manage execution of strategic level SAPR policies, procedures, and objectives within their area of responsibility

The SARW delivers a “No Wrong Door” advocacy approach ensuring any person seeking support and care is connected to the appropriate contact.

SAPRO is responsible for management and oversight of the SARW.

For more information on the SARW, please visit [www.sapr.mil/sarw](http://www.sapr.mil/sarw).  
For confidential victim assistance, call or visit the DoD Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247 or [safehelpline.org](http://safehelpline.org).