



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
**SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION
AND RESPONSE OFFICE**



SAPRO ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS OF THE 2022 LIZ BLANC SARC OF THE YEAR AND PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN PREVENTION AWARDS

MAY 17, 2022

The Department of Defense (DoD) Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) recognized the recipients of the 2022 Liz Blanc Exceptional Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) of the Year Award and the Promoting Excellence in Prevention Award at a ceremony in Mark Center in Alexandria, VA, on May 17.

The annual awards emphasize the importance of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response across the Department, and recognize the dedicated individuals who provide critical victim care and support, and those working towards a prevention-focused community.

Since 2009, DoD has annually recognized one SARC from each Military Service and National Guard for the Elizabeth “Liz” Blanc Exceptional SARC award for innovative achievements contributing to unique and exceptional victim response within the military community.

Dr. Nathan Galbreath, (Acting) Director for DoD SAPRO, highlighted the importance of the award and echoed his appreciation for SARCs who take on these challenging roles. “Having the opportunity to recognize these silent warriors for their work in supporting Service members is a true honor,” said Galbreath. “Fostering a support system that meets the needs of all victims is challenging. It takes constant attention, hard work and focus. Everyone that will receive this award is an example of that hard work; they know the true meaning of taking care of our own.”

“A victim’s interaction with a SARC can set the trajectory to a path of healing, and influence their trust in the reporting process and military justice system. SARCs serve as the single point of contact for integrating and institutionalizing sexual assault victim care in the field, from initial report through case conclusion, ensuring that a support system is in place for all victims”.

To ensure SARCs are trained and armed with the tools they need to provide comprehensive victim care and support, SARCs from across the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Space Force, National Guard, and Coast Guard receive training and certification in victim-centered care through the [DoD Sexual Assault Advocate Certification Program](#).

Preventing a sexual assault from occurring in the first place is a Department priority. Towards this, DoD has increased its focus and effort on preventing sexual assault through ongoing initiatives including release of the [Prevention Plan of Action](#), publishing an [integrated violence prevention policy](#), and establishing a prevention community of practice and prevention workforce. These initiatives further the Department’s work to implement the comprehensive recommendations from the Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military (IRC).

Recipients of this year’s awards represent the thousands of Service members and civilians dedicated to Sexual Assault Prevention and Response across the Department.

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office

“The efforts made by this year’s recipients, support the work being done by the Department to reduce and stop sexual assault in the military community,” said Dr. Andra Tharp, Senior Prevention Advisor for the Department’s Office of Force Resiliency and SAPRO. “Their work is critical to creating and sustaining an environment of dignity, respect, inclusiveness, and connectedness to advance readiness and warfighting capability.”

2022 Liz Blanc Exceptional SARC of the Year recipients:

- Army: Sergeant First Class Brandy Jackson-Frazer, U.S. Army North Atlantic Treaty Organization Brigade, Sembach, Germany
- Navy: Kim Birdwell, Naval Station Norfolk, Norfolk, VA
- Marine Corps: Zuzana Hall, Marine Corps Recruiting Command, Quantico, VA
- National Guard: Ashley Shelton, Alaska National Guard, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK
- Coast Guard: Lianne Casupang, District 14 at Honolulu, Hawaii
- Air Force: Captain Vikki Flores, 355th Wing, Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ

2022 Promoting Excellence in Prevention Award recipients:

- Army: Ms. Stacey Rosenberg, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY
- Navy: LCDR Catherine Cole and LT Stuart Lyster, Naval Station North Island, San Diego, CA
- National Guard: Ms. Christyn Delgaiollo, California National Guard
- Air Force: Capt Jacob England, 1st Lt Aimee Ford, 1st Lt Sarah Johnson, 1st Lt Kimberly Ratliff, TSgt Sarah Duckett, TSgt Matthew Brimmer, A1C Samantha Hughes Minot Air Force Base, ND
- Space Force: Maj Branden Crockett, Maj Shelton Fraser, Capt Adam Embry, MSgt Curtis Oliver, TSgt Walker Jean-Philippe, Dr. Nicole Stoughton, Mr. Nicholas Mowes