Victim Reporting Options Guide

Deciding whether to report a sexual assault is a deeply personal decision. However, reporting can be a gateway to recovery. The Department's Restricted and Unrestricted reporting options allow Service members who experienced sexual assault to exercise control over how and when they engage with resources.

DoD's response services include:

- Confidential access to a Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocate (SAPR VA), regardless of reporting option selected
- Support from highly trained personnel, including Medical and Mental Healthcare providers, Special Victims' Counsel (SVC) / Victims’ Legal Counsel (VLC), and Chaplains
- Professional investigative and legal response from personnel, specially trained to work with victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse
- A variety of support, recovery and safety options, including Expedited Transfer, Military Protective Order, Catch a Serial Offender Program, Case Management Group reviews and updates, and victim safety assessments
- 24/7, worldwide, anonymous and confidential support at Safe Helpline – a specialized, secure online service that provides help and information anytime, anywhere. Find more information at safehelpline.org.

### VICTIM REPORTING AND NOTIFICATION PROCESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry</th>
<th>Notification</th>
<th>Reporting Option</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Military Criminal Investigative Organization (MCIO) or Chain of Command</td>
<td>SARC notified</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) / SAPR VA</td>
<td>SARC notified</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare Personnel</td>
<td></td>
<td>Restricted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Criminal investigators and command officials will be notified when an Unrestricted Report is made.

### CARE & RECOVERY SERVICES

After an incident of sexual assault, those affected can seek many of the same care and recovery services

#### Available Services for Unrestricted Reporting Option
- SAPR Support Services
- Health Care
- Mental Health Care
- Forensic Exam (if indicated)
- Legal Consultation & Representation through SVC/VLC
- Spiritual Support
- Command Response
- Investigation
- Prosecution

#### Available Services for Restricted Reporting Option
- SAPR Support Services
- Health Care
- Mental Health Care
- Forensic Exam (if indicated)
- Legal Consultation & Representation through SVC/VLC
- Spiritual Support
- Catch a Serial Offender (CATCH) Program
YOU ARE NOT ALONE
Dedicated Response Resources

Professionals are available everywhere the military operates to help connect victims of sexual assault with information and resources:

1. Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)
   An installation resource who provides confidential support and coordinates care for a victim of sexual assault throughout the investigation and recovery process.

2. SAPR Victim Advocate (VA)
   An advocate who provides one-to-one confidential support, education, and resources to a victim of sexual assault under the supervision of the SARC.

3. Military Chaplain
   Priests, ministers, and other religious clergy can provide confidential spiritual advice and counseling to a victim of sexual assault. While Chaplains cannot take reports of sexual assault, they can put you in touch with a SARC or SAPR VA if you so request.

4. Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examiner (SAMFE)
   A specially-trained medical professional who can conduct a Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) and address medical concerns associated with sexual assault.

5. Special Victims' Counsel or Victims' Legal Counsel (SVC/VLC)
   A military attorney who provides victims with confidential legal advice, representation, and assistance with exercising their rights throughout the investigative and justice process. Communications with these attorneys are protected and cannot be shared with anyone. Victims may consult with an SVC or VLC prior to making a report.

6. Special Victim Investigation and Prosecution Capability
   Criminal investigators, prosecutors, and other legal support personnel who work together and are specially-trained to assist victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse.

For more information, please visit sapr.mil;
For confidential victim assistance, call or visit the DoD Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247 or safehelpline.org