



SAPR Newsletter

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

Volume 2, Issue 1

Spring 2012

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"Sexual assault is an ugly mark on our proud reputation; it goes against everything we claim to be as United States Marines."

– General Amos, CMC White Letter 2-12

The Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC) has initiated an aggressive revitalization of the USMC Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program. In April, he convened a two-week Operational Planning Team (OPT), composed of senior officers and enlisted Marines, charged with developing a Corps-wide campaign plan addressing the issue of sexual assault.

While the Marine Corps remains dedicated to providing victims the best services possible, we also want to focus efforts on prevention. More effective prevention will require institutional and cultural change within the Marine Corps to instill a command climate and discipline conducive to reducing sexual assault. To do this, a SAPR Implementation Team (SAPR-IT) was formed and is poised to launch a three phase plan: Strike (0-6 months), Implement (6-12 months), and Sustain (12-24 months).

Some efforts are already underway. On 3 May, the CMC released a White Letter as a "shot across the bow for all Marines on the issue of sexual assault" to initiate the "awakening

within the Marine Corps on this issue." On 7-8 May, the CMC charged leaders at the Executive Off-Site (EOS) to take ownership of the issue. In July, the CMC is convening a two-day General Officers Symposium solely dedicated to sexual assault, followed in August by a similar Sergeants Major Symposium for sergeants major, master gunnery sergeants, and command master chiefs. These symposiums will feature enhanced training and nationally recognized speakers on sexual assault in the military.

Implementing the recommendations of the CMC and OPT will take the efforts of every Marine and will represent change on a level not previously seen with regard to sexual assault. Yet one thing remains unchanged – the message that sexual assault prevention is our collective responsibility. We remain dedicated to reducing incidents of sexual assault within the Marine Corps, creating an environment of trust where victims feel safe to report, and caring for those victims who come forward.

"Keeping Faith"

Expedited Transfers

DTM 11-063 from the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) allows Marines who make an unrestricted report of sexual assault to request an Expedited Transfer. The expedited transfer process was announced to the Total Force via MARADMIN 227/12, released on 19 April 2012. An LOI has been provided to all SARC's with protocol for the execution of expedited transfers.

A Marine who makes an unrestricted report of sexual assault must be informed of the right to request an expedited transfer. The Marine must submit a written request to his or her Commanding Officer. No personally identifying information (PII) or details of the assault are to be included; however, as directed by the 4 April 2012 Memorandum from the Undersecretary of the Navy, the request should include the victim's preferred destination or reassignment.

The Commanding Officer must respond to the request within 72 hours. If approved, a written request for expedited transfer should be forwarded to MFC-3. MFC-3 will coordinate with Manpower Management to effect the transfer. If denied, the Marine may request final review by the first General Officer or SES in the chain of command. Any questions should be directed to Captain K. A. Mobley at HQMC SAPR (703-432-9100).

DSAID Transition

In accordance with requirements first established in the FY09 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), the Marine Corps will begin transitioning from the Sexual Assault Incident Reporting Database (SAIRD) to the Defense Sexual Assault Incident Database (DSAID) on 1 July 2012. SARC's will begin receiving training on DSAID at the 18-22 June SARC Conference.

DSAID, which will be used across the Department of Defense (DoD), is significantly more comprehensive than SAIRD and will track 161 more fields of information, including victim and subject demographics, disposition information, SAFE Kit expirations, Case Management Group (CMG) meeting minutes, and copies of the Victim Reporting Preference Statement (VRPS) for Unrestricted Reports.

While UVAs currently maintain case information in SAIRD, SARC's will be required to enter and maintain case data in DSAID and will therefore need to be engaged in case management from time of incident to conclusion. This transition will be a substantial change for the Marine Corps and will require our collective effort to ensure its success.

The Marine Corps supports using DSAID, which will allow us to capture information that can more easily be compiled and reported and will align us with DoD policy.

Upcoming SARC Conference

From 18-22 June, a training conference will be held at MCB Quantico for Command and Installation SARC's/Program Managers. Training be provided on: recent DoD policy changes, DSAID implementation, and

Command Team Training. SARC's will also be certified using the new Victim Advocate Training, approved by the National Advocacy Credentialing Program.