

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR)

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Summary

The purpose of the SAPR program is to eliminate incidents of sexual assault by instituting a comprehensive policy that centers on awareness and prevention, training and education, victim advocacy, response, reporting, and accountability.

Goals of the SAPR program are:

- Establish sexual assault training and awareness programs to educate Servicemembers
- Ensure leadership understand their roles and responsibilities regarding care and treatment of victims
- Ensure leadership understand their roles and responsibilities regarding investigating and reporting sexual assault allegations
- Create an environment that encourages victims to report incidents of sexual assault
- Establish a system for victims to receive the needed care and treatment
- Ensure all sexual assault crimes are thoroughly investigated and offenders are held accountable
- Ensure reporting mechanisms are in place to track trends in sexual assault and the effectiveness of response capabilities
- Track training and awareness programs to ensure compliance with NGB policy

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Five Stages of Recovery

Stage	Name	Description
Stage 1	Initial Shock	Shock following an assault can take on many forms. Victims may experience emotional as well as physical shock, which in turn could be expressed as very controlled, and/or withdrawn, or, highly expressive, including crying, screaming or shaking. Victims may or may not feel comfortable communicating these feeling others.

Stage	Name	Description
Stage 2	Denial	This stage may find victims attempting to go on with a normal routine and wanting to forget about the assault. This denial or rationalization of what happened is an attempt to deal with inner turmoil.
Stage 3	Reactivation	This stage involves a re-experiencing of the feelings from Stage 1, usually brought on by the triggering of memories of the assault. Feelings of depression, anxiety and shame increase. Other symptoms can include nightmares, flashbacks, and a sense of vulnerability, mistrust and physical complaints.
Stage 4	Anger	Victims may experience feelings of anger - often toward themselves, friends, significant others, society, the legal system, all men/women, etc. Sometimes through counseling, this anger can be dispelled.
Stage 5	Integration (Closure)	As victims integrate the thoughts and feelings stemming from the assault into their life experience victims will begin to feel "back on track." As a result of support, education and the passage of time, victims may feel strengthened.

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Quick Guide: If you have been sexually assaulted

1. Go to a safe location away from the attacker.
2. If you need medical treatment or are in life threatening danger, call 911.
3. Contact local Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) immediately. If the SARC is not available, contact a Victim Advocate, your healthcare provider, or the NGB hotline, 1-866-601-0577.
4. Preserve all evidence of the assault. Do not change or clean your clothes. Do not shower, wash your hands, or brush your teeth.
5. Receive medical treatment as soon as possible, even if you do not have any visible injuries. Ask for a sexual assault forensic exam (SAFE).

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Quick Guide: If your friend has been sexually assaulted

1. Ensure your friend is in a safe location away from the attacker. If not, take them to a safe location.
2. If your friend needs medical treatment or is in life threatening danger, call 911.
3. Encourage your friend to contact the State SARC immediately. If the SARC is not available, contact a Victim Advocate, your friend's healthcare provider, or the NGB SAPR program manager at 1-866-601-0577.

4. If at all possible, suggest that your friend preserves all evidence of the assault. Encourage your friend not to change clothes, shower, wash his/her hands, or brush his/her teeth.
5. Offer to accompany your friend to a medical appointment as soon as possible, even if he or she does not have visible injuries. The victim may elect to have a SAFE to gather evidence and ensure he/she did not sustain any injuries.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the definition of sexual assault?

A. DoD defines sexual assault as intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, threats, intimidation, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault includes rape, forcible sodomy (oral or anal sex), and other unwanted sexual contact that is aggravated, abusive, or wrongful (to include unwanted and inappropriate sexual contact), or attempts to commit these acts. "Consent" means words or overt acts indicating a freely given agreement to the sexual conduct at issue by a competent person. An expression of lack of consent through words or conduct means there is no consent. Lack of verbal or physical resistance or submission resulting from the accused's use of force, threat of force, or placing another person in fear does not constitute consent. A current or previous dating relationship by itself or the manner of dress of the person involved with the accused in the sexual conduct at issue shall not constitute consent.

Q. What is the definition of sexual harassment?

A. Sexual Harassment is a form of gender discrimination that involves unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature between the same or opposite genders when submission to, or rejection of, such conduct explicitly or implicitly affects an individual's employment, work performance, or creates a hostile or intimidating work environment.

Q. What's the difference between sexual assault and sexual harassment?

A. Sexual assault and sexual harassment relate to each other but are not the same. Sexual harassment is a form of gender discrimination that involves verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexual assault must involve physical contact which includes rape, indecent assault, and forcible sodomy.

Q. What is consent?

A. Consent is the use of words or acts indicating an agreement to sexual conduct by all parties involved. Offenders often facilitate sexual assault by using alcohol or drugs. Consent is not possible when a victim is too intoxicated to give full, knowledgeable consent.

Q. Can a person who has been sexually assaulted a year ago still report it?

A. Sexual assault can be reported at any time but it is encouraged to come forward as soon as possible.

Q. What are my reporting options?

- A. There are two reporting options for sexual assault.
- Restricted reporting allows victims to confidentially disclose sexual assault to a SARC, Victim Advocate, or Health Care Personnel (HCP) without triggering an investigation by law enforcement or command. Chaplains have privileged communication and can refer victims to SARCs or VAs for restricted reporting. Victims receive appropriate medical treatment, advocacy, and counseling. Victims are not able to discuss the assault with anyone except the identified individuals listed above.
 - Unrestricted reporting is for victims who wish to have official investigation performed. Command and investigation services are notified. Details about the incident will be released only to those personnel who have a legitimate need to know.

Regardless of the reporting option, victims are able to receive medical treatment, a SAFE, advocacy services, and counseling assistance if the assault occurred while in Title 10 or Fulltime National Guard duty status. Sexual assaults that occur in Traditional or a non-duty status can receive victim advocacy and referrals to civilian resources.

Q. What resources are available for victims of sexual assault?

- A. The following is a list of resources available to victims of sexual assault:
- Military One Source
 - Medical Treatment Facility (MTF)
 - Military Police/Criminal Investigation Division
 - Leadership (Commander, Supervisor, First Sergeant)
 - Chaplain
 - Social Services
 - Army Psychiatric Counselors

Q. What services are available to me if I am on State active duty status?

- A. Servicemembers on State active duty status are eligible for the following:
- Limited State benefits defined by State law
 - Workman's compensation
 - Military One Source
 - National Sexual Violence Resource Center
 - Rape, Incest, Abuse, National Network

Q. What services are available to me if I am a military technician in technician status?

- A. Military technicians in a technician Status are eligible for the following:
- Confidential referral
 - Benefits determined by Technician insurance benefits
 - Employee Assistance Program
 - Military One Source

- Workman's compensation, if the sexual assault occurred during duty hours

Q. What services are available to me if I am a Veteran returning from active duty to Title 32 status?

- A. Veterans returning from active duty to Title 32 status are eligible for the following:
- Line of duty (LOD) benefits
 - Transitional Assistance Management Program benefits
 - VA Medical Benefits and Military Sexual Trauma Treatment Centers
 - Military One Source

Q. What resources are available for civilians?

- A. The following are resources available to civilians
- Local rape crisis centers
 - SANE/SAFE services paid for by law enforcement, depending on State laws
 - Victim Assistance and Compensation Program, depending on State laws
 - National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards
 - National Sexual Violence Resource Center
 - TRICARE Reserve Select
 - Other health insurance

Q. Can men be sexually assaulted?

- A. Yes, men can be victims of sexual assault and are able to receive all sexual assault resources.

Q. How can I help prevent sexual assault from occurring?

- A. Sexual assault is always the fault of the offender. Preventing sexual assault is part of everyone's duty. You can help by:
- Recognizing situations that may lead to sexual assault, (i.e, use of alcohol to take advantage of a person's ability to provide true consent; abuse of authority; climates that tolerate inappropriate sexual behaviors, etc.)
 - Learning how to directly or indirectly intervene to stop perpetrators
 - Not tolerating those who help facilitate sexual assault.
 - Adhering to the Army's core values of personal courage and intervening to prevent perpetrators of sexual assault

Q. Where can I find the NGB Commander's Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Checklist?

- A. The NGB Commander's Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Checklist can be found on the [National Guard Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Website](#).

Q. Where can I find the Commander's Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Checklist?

- A. The Commander's Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Checklist can be found on the [Army's Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention Program Website](#).

Q. Will military sex offenders be registered in State and Federal authorities?

A. Yes, all military sex offenders must register with the state sex offender register and the installation provost marshal as required by federal and state statutes.

Q. I've been sexually assaulted cannot reach anyone in my State, who can I contact for help?

A. Victims can call the NGB SAPR Program Manager at: 1-866-601-0577.

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Links

- [Joint Services Support – Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program](#)
The National Guard Bureau's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program website provides the mission and vision of the program, training material, and information about how to eliminate sexual assault.
- [National Guard Bureau Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program](#)
This website provides the mission and goals of the Army National Guard Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, policy, training materials, sexual assault hotline numbers, and additional links.
- [U.S. Army Sexual Harassment / Assault Response and Prevention Program](#)
This website is the homepage for the U.S. Army Sexual Harassment / Assault Response and Prevention Program and provides information about prevention, training, policy, and sexual harassment.

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References

Regulations

- [AR 600-20, Army Command Policy](#)
- [DoDI 6495.02, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program Procedures](#)
- [MEDCOM 40-36, Medical Facility Management of Sexual Assault](#)

Documents and Forms

- [DD Form 2910, Victim Reporting Preference Statement](#)

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Points of Contact

- NGB SAPR Office
1-866-601-0577
- Military One Source – CONUS
1-800-342-9647
- Military One Source – OCONUS
1-484-530-5908

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