



DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE

JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS
MASSACHUSETTS NATIONAL GUARD
2 RANDOLPH ROAD
HANSCOM AFB, MA 01731-3001

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

NGMA-TAG

22 November 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR All Massachusetts Army and Air National Guard Personnel

SUBJECT: Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program Policy

1. References:

- a. Department of Defense Directive 6495.01, *Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program*, dated 23 January 2012, Incorporating Change 1, 30 April 2013.
- b. Department of Defense Instruction 6495.02, *Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program Procedures*, dated 28 March 2013.
- c. Army Regulation 600-20, *Army Command Policy*, Chapter 8, dated 20 September 2012.
- d. Air Force Instruction 36-6001, *Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program*, dated 29 September 2008, Incorporating Change 1, 30 September 2009, Certified Current 14 October 2010.

2. The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program is a DoD-wide initiative. Its objective is to create an environment and military community that is intolerant of sexual assault. Sexual assault is a crime and has no place in the Massachusetts National Guard. Sexual assault is generally defined as intentional sexual contact characterized by the use of force, threats, intimidation, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent. The Massachusetts National Guard is committed to eliminating incidents of sexual assault by focusing on increasing awareness through prevention and education, victim-centered support, intimidation-free reporting, thorough investigation and accountability under either civilian or military law for those who commit sexual crimes.

3. Sexual assault has a devastating and often lasting impact on the victim. It degrades our readiness and destroys unit cohesion; every member of the unit is affected. Victims of sexual assault shall be protected from coercion, retaliation, and reprisal. Victims shall be treated with dignity and respect, and shall receive timely access to comprehensive medical treatment, including emergency care treatment and services. I expect Massachusetts National Guard leaders, both military and civilian, to maintain a workplace environment that rejects sexual assault and reinforces a culture of prevention, response and accountability. All leaders and supervisors will create and promote a positive command climate placing special emphasis on ensuring that all accusations of sexual assault are taken seriously and referred to proper authorities for support and investigation.

4. In the Massachusetts National Guard, an immediate trained sexual assault response capability is available for each report of sexual assault. Captain Susan Baldwin is the Massachusetts National Guard Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC). As the program manager of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program, Captain Baldwin is available to oversee victim care, to include initial response to a sexual assault incident, advocacy and guidance of the reporting process, proper referrals to local response groups, support throughout the investigative process, and continued support for as long as a victim feels assistance is required. Additionally, the JFHQ SARC team will provide assistance and training for

NGMA-TAG

SUBJECT: Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program Policy

Commanders, appointed Unit Victim Advocates (UVAs), Army Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention Victim Advocates (SHARP/VAs), and perform annual training for all personnel as required. During business hours you may contact Captain Baldwin at (339) 202-3118, or call the SARC helpline at any time for an expeditious response at (508) 889-6644.

5. Commanders will post this memorandum on unit bulletin boards and ensure that all Service Members complete annual Sexual Assault Prevention and Response training. Commanders will select and appoint VAs in order to provide command emphasis to the SAPR program. Once selected, the SARC must be notified immediately of all selectees in order to maintain a high standard of service and ensure that all VAs are properly and consistently trained. Current VAs have been trained and fully understand the importance of their appointment. All other duties are secondary if a VA is assigned to respond to a victim.



L. SCOTT RICE
Major General, MA NG
The Adjutant General