



# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE OFFICE



The DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) represents the Secretary of Defense as the central authority charged with preventing sexual assault in the military and facilitating recovery for survivors. SAPRO promotes military readiness by reducing sexual assault through advocacy and execution of program policy, planning, and oversight across the DoD Community.

## Program Oversight Across the Department

As the authority on this issue for the Department, SAPRO unifies the prevention and response efforts of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and National Guard by ensuring equal emphasis on critical challenge areas and making best practices common across these Services.

## Policy for Mission-Critical Initiatives

SAPRO establishes the broad policy parameters of the Department to assure compliance with our mission and military law. Policies establish and reinforce prevention efforts, strengthen victim protections, and establish procedures for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Personnel.

DoD applies a strategic approach to combatting sexual assault. Actions are typically guided by five critical focus areas:

- >> **Prevention** to foster a culture that prevents sexual assault
- >> **Victim Assistance** to deliver consistent, high-quality care and support that restore resiliency and empower survivors to report
- >> **Investigation** to develop special investigators and prosecutors through trauma-informed training, yielding timely and accurate results
- >> **Accountability** to hold offenders appropriately accountable through the military justice system
- >> **Assessment** to effectively measure, analyze, assess, and report on the state of the problem and progress toward program success

DoD's approach is prevention-focused with an uncompromising commitment to victim assistance.

## Services for Prevention and Response Capability

SAPRO also manages a host of programs and services that aid in accomplishing DoD's SAPR mission.

### SAPR Connect

SAPR Connect is a prevention-focused, Common Access Card-enabled online community of practice available 24/7/365 for SAPR stakeholders to share information and ideas to prevent sexual assault and other readiness impacting behaviors.

### DoD Safe Helpline

DoD Safe Helpline provides anonymous, live, one-on-one crisis intervention, support, information, and resources to members of the DoD community who have been affected by sexual assault. Services are confidential and available worldwide, 24/7, so victims have access to help whenever and wherever they need it. The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) operates Safe Helpline through a contract with SAPRO.

### DoD Sexual Assault Advocate Certification Program (D-SAACP)

D-SAACP is a certification program that standardizes victim advocacy across the Department and professionalizes the role of Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARCs) and SAPR Victim Advocates, enabling quality victim advocacy for adult survivors of sexual assault within the military jurisdiction. The National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) administers D-SAACP through a contract with SAPRO.

### DoD Sexual Assault Incident Database (DSAID)

DSAID is a centralized case-level database that collects and maintains information on sexual assaults involving Armed Forces members. Operated by SAPRO, DSAID gives SARCs the enhanced ability to provide comprehensive and standardized victim case management.

## STATISTICAL SNAPSHOT

- 54 Secretary of Defense-directed SAPR initiatives enacted to improve prevention and response since 2012
- 71 sections of law and over 100 unique requirements legislated by Congress – most sweeping military justice reforms since 1968
- More than 35,000 service men and women have been certified as Sexual Assault Response Coordinators and Victim Advocates
- Nearly 2,000 special agents and prosecutors completed courses in advanced sexual assault investigations in the Department since 2009
- 185 specially-trained attorneys in place to help victims exercise their rights and understand the justice system

## SAPRO'S MAJOR EFFORTS

- Creating the 2017-2021 Sexual Assault Prevention Plan of Action
- Implementing the Retaliation Prevention and Response Strategy
- Executing The DoD Plan to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Assault of Military Men
- Creating male-specific Safe Help Room sessions
- Conducting assessments to measure effectiveness of Case Management

For more information, please visit [sapr.mil](http://sapr.mil)

For confidential victim assistance, call or visit the DoD Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247 or [safehelpline.org](http://safehelpline.org)