



## Appendix A: Additional Accomplishments, Activities, and Outreach



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This appendix highlights additional significant accomplishment, activities, and outreach undertaken by the Department of Defense (DoD) during Fiscal Year (FY) 22, which were not covered in the main body of the Annual Report. The activities are organized as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. DoD SAPRO Activities**

Activity	Goal Description
Prevention	Deliver consistent and effective prevention methods and programs
Victim Assistance and Advocacy	Deliver consistent and effective victim support, response, and reporting options
Investigation	Achieve high competence in the investigation of sexual assault
Accountability	Achieve high competence in holding offenders appropriately accountable
Assessment	Effectively standardize, measure, analyze, assess, and report program progress

## Prevention

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### Stakeholder Coordination and Outreach

#### *Research Initiatives (NDAA 549A)*

The Department continued research efforts to build prevention capacity and advance the evidence-base for sexual assault prevention. Specifically, the Department completed a multi-year pilot of the Getting to Outcomes process. The pilot culminated in multiple prevention tools and advanced prevention and evaluation efforts at sites across DoD. Rigorous evaluations of five prevention activities continued through the Innovations in Sexual Assault Prevention Pilot Program (ISAPPP). This initiative is evaluating the impact of prevention programs underway across DoD and the Coast Guard to build the evidence-base about what works in military environments to stop and reduce assault.

In addition, the Department established the Evaluation Technical Assistance Center (ETAC) to support prevention evaluation efforts at all levels. ETAC builds on and supports the ongoing work of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Violence Prevention Technical Assistance Center, which has been providing training and technical assistance to DoD for several years. The Department developed the FY23 Integrated Prevention Research Agenda as directed in the FY23 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Section 549A. The agenda, which was approved by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)) in October 2022 outlines key priorities for prevention research.

#### *Promoted Excellence in Prevention*

This year the Department and Services selected the following individuals to receive the Promoting Excellence in Prevention Award:

- **Army:** Ms. Stacey Rosenberg, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY

- **Navy:** Lieutenant Commander Catherine Cole and LT Stuart Lyster, Naval Station North Island, San Diego, CA
- **Air Force:** Captain Jacob England, First Lieutenant Aimee Ford, First Lieutenant Sarah Johnson, First Lieutenant Kimberly Ratliff, Technical Sergeant Sarah Duckett, Technical Sergeant Matthew Brimmer, and Airman First Class Samantha Hughes, Minot Air Force Base, Minot, ND
- **Space Force:** Major Branden Crockett, Major Shelton Fraser, Captain Adam Embry, Master Sergeant Curtis Oliver, Technical Sergeant Walker Jean-Philippe, Dr. Nicole Stoughton, and Mr. Nicholas Mowes, Schriever Space Force Base, Colorado Springs, CO
- **National Guard:** Ms. Christyn Delgaiollo, California National Guard

## Victim Assistance and Advocacy

### *Liz Blanc Exceptional Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) of the Year*

Since 2009, DoD has annually recognized one SARC from each Military Service and the National Guard for the Exceptional SARC of the Year Award for innovative achievements contributing to unique and exceptional victim response within the military community. The Award was renamed for DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office's (SAPRO) Senior Victim Assistance Advisor, Liz Blanc, who passed away in 2020 after a battle with cancer.



Liz Blanc

This year, the Department is honored to recognize the following awardees of the Liz Blanc Exceptional SARC of the Year Award:

- **Army:** Sergeant First Class Brandy Jackson-Frazer, U.S. Army North Atlantic Treaty Organization Brigade, Sembach, Germany
- **Navy:** Ms. Kim Birdwell, Naval Station Norfolk, Norfolk, VA
- **Marine Corps:** Ms. Zuzana Hall, Marine Corps Recruiting Command, Quantico, VA
- **Air Force:** Captain Vikki Flores, 335<sup>th</sup> Wing, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, AZ
- **National Guard:** Ms. Ashley Shelton, Alaska National Guard, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK
- **Coast Guard:** Ms. Lianne Casupang, District 14, Honolulu, HI

### *Announced New SAPRO Theme*

In February 2022, DoD SAPRO announced its new theme, "Step Forward. Prevent. Report. Advocate," in advance of April's Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. This new theme is a call to action for individuals at all levels of the Department to use their personal strength to advance positive changes in preventing sexual violence.



## Continued Collaborative Relationships and Recognition

### *Facilitated the SARC and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocate (SAPR VA) Vulnerable Populations Working Group*

The Department hosted three sessions with SARCs and SAPR VAs from the Military Services to enhance DoD understanding of responders' encounter skills when working with Service members from vulnerable populations. These sessions supported the implementation of approved Independent Review Commission (IRC) recommendation 4.4.b (develop training to build the capacity of SARCs and VAs to provide culturally competent care).

### *Hosted 2022 Virtual Learning Event*

In support of the IRC cross cutting recommendation one and 4.4b, the Department hosted the first ever virtual training summit in January 2022, which was attended by over 700 DoD SAPR personnel (87 percent) and other stakeholders. This training event provided an opportunity to further professionalize and build the capacity of SARCs and SAPR VAs to provide culturally competent care to Service members from communities of color, LGBTQ+ Service members, religious minorities, and male victims.

Personnel received the latest updates on SAPR policy, participated in the initial kickoff for Men's SAPR Campaign, and received information on how SAPR personnel can connect a survivor to the Military Sexual Trauma (MST) Coordinator within the Department of Veterans Affairs when the Service member is separating or retiring from the Armed Forces. This free event allowed SAPR personnel to add a substantive number of continuing education hours without incurring travel costs or increasing risk of exposure to the coronavirus.

### *Updated DoD Form 2910 (Victim Reporting Preference Statement)*

DoD Form 2910, *Victim Reporting Preference Statement*, now includes information that every Veterans Healthcare Administration facility has a MST Coordinator who can assist in accessing MST-related medical and mental health care. In addition, the form documents that every Veterans Benefits Administration Regional Office has an MST Outreach Coordinator who can help with disability claims related to MST and instructions for how to connect with those coordinators.

Links to find the names and contact information for the nearest Veterans Health Administration and Veterans Benefits Administration MST Coordinator are included in the form. Additionally, the SARC or SAPR VA will fill in the information of the nearest Veterans Health Administration MST Coordinator and review this information with the survivor while completing the form. This requirement will be included in future advocacy trainings instructing staff on processes for reporting intake and encounter skills.

### *Participated in the National Organization of Victim Assistance (NOVA) Conference*

In August 2022, the Department attended the NOVA Conference and presented topics pertinent to SAPR response personnel and provided a leadership introduction and speech about the importance of victim advocacy and the fundamental changes underway based on approved IRC recommendations.



### *Continued Partnership with Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime (DOJ OVC)*

In October 2021, the Department met with DOJ OVC to discuss the current memorandum of understanding between the offices. The Department partners with the DOJ OVC Technical Training Assistance Center to support the Strengthening Military Civilian Community Partnerships (SMCCP). The program held a virtual training event for approximately 60 participants from the military and civilian response communities of Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek (Virginia Beach, Virginia). This training helps participants establish partnerships with local military installations to respond effectively to the needs of sexual assault victims in the military.

### *Hosted the Five Eyes SAPR Forum*

On November 30 and December 1, 2021, the Department hosted the virtual Five Eyes SAPR Forum with allies from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom. This forum provided an opportunity for the Five Eyes countries to share best practices and challenges their militaries are facing, as well as discuss efforts they are undertaking to address sexual assault and related behaviors in their respective militaries. DoD SAPRO sponsored virtual presentations and discussions across the two days with all five member countries participating.

### *Conducted Safe Helpline (SHL) Briefings at Bases and Installations around the World*

The SHL team led 68 events at bases and installations around the world to promote awareness of the SHL as a unique resource that provides anonymous, confidential crisis intervention support and resources to victims of sexual assault in the military community, their family, friends, and SAPR personnel.

## Accountability and Investigation

### **Appropriations for Special Victims' Counsel/Victims' Legal Counsel (SVC/VLC) and Special Victim Investigation and Prosecution Capability**

DoD SAPRO worked with the Military Departments and the National Guard Bureau (NGB) to identify requirements for the congressional budget appropriation of \$47 million for the Special Victims Counsel program expansion. Appropriations were then re-programmed to the Military Services and NGB for execution.

## Assessment

### **Defense Sexual Assault Incident Database (DSAID) Update**

DSAID is the Department's authoritative, centralized case-level database used to collect and maintain information on sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces, including tracking and reporting on sexual assault-related retaliation data. DoD SAPRO operates DSAID and works collaboratively with the Military Services to implement and sustain the system.

SARCs use DSAID to provide comprehensive and standardized victim case management. Additionally, DoD uses DSAID to conduct oversight, inform Department and Service-level SAPR program planning and analysis, and meet Congressional reporting requirements.

The Department meets monthly with DSAID representatives from the Military Services and NGB to discuss improvements to the database. Some changes may be required by law or policy.

The following DSAID improvements took place in FY22:

- **Space Force Integration into the Data Warehouse:** On January 24, 2022, version 2.4 for the DSAID Data Warehouse was successfully implemented. This new version moves United States Space Force data from DSAID into the data warehouse for enhanced consolidated data reporting.
- **Updates to SARC Profile, Legal Officer Module, and Case Synopsis Reports:** On February 16, 2022, DSAID version 5.4 and version 2.5 for the DSAID Data Warehouse were released to the field. This release added new fields to the SARC profile, updated the legal officer module, and added a scheduling feature for case synopsis reports.
- **Addition of Victim Primary Occupational Field:** On May 12, 2022, DSAID version 5.5 was released to add the victim's primary occupational field as a demographic category. This release will allow the Department to compare sexual assault reporting by Service member occupation.

In addition to the above DSAID updates, the Department also coordinated a data sharing agreement with the Veterans Benefits Administration to better serve veterans in their disability claims related to an alleged sexual assault while serving in uniform. The DSAID data sharing agreement with the Veterans Benefits Administration will help to facilitate claims for individuals making an Unrestricted Report of sexual assault. The Department cannot access personally identifying information on Restricted Reports. In addition, not all incidents of sexual assault are reported to military authorities. Accordingly, the data sharing agreement stipulates that the Veterans Benefits Administration will not use the absence of a claimant's case from the Unrestricted Reports database as the sole reason for denying benefits.

### Government Accountability Office (GAO) and DoD IG Report Update

The Department supported six GAO and DoD IG engagements by reviewing reports, statements of fact, and developing Corrective Action Plans for over 30 recommendations.

The following are the GAO and DoD IG reports for which the Department provided direct response or support during FY22:

- GAO Engagement – DoD and Coast Guard Should Ensure Laws are Implemented to Improve Oversight of Key Prevention and Response Efforts (103973);
- GAO Engagement – SAPR Army Effectiveness (104673);
- GAO Engagement – Sexual Assault Against Women in Special Operations (105168);
- GAO Engagement – Review of Service Member Trauma and Experiences with Unwanted Sexual Behavior during Military Service (105381);
- GAO Engagement – Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault: Guidance Needed to Ensure Consistent Tracking, Response, and Training for DoD Civilians (21-113); and
- DoD IG – DoD Emergency Medical Care for Victims of Sexual Assault (D2022-D000AW-0031.000).

### National Defense Authorization Act Requirement Implementation Status

Per GAO 22-103973 recommendation 5, the Department is developing a mechanism to

consistently track and document implementation of ongoing and future NDAA statutory requirements related to sexual assault prevention and response.

### **Leadership Team Awareness Seminar – Virtual (LTAS-V)**

In partnership with the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI), DoD SAPRO facilitated the SAPR lesson of LTAS-V. This course is held quarterly with an emphasis on different human relations programs. The Fourth Quarter LTAS-V focused on SAPR and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion programs and policies. The course was attended by more than 200 Military Service command teams, SAPR leaders and SARCs, Equal Opportunity advisors, and other stakeholders around the world that play a key role in executing the SAPR program.