

James, Robin M CW5 USA NGGA JFHQ COS

From: James, Robin M CW5 USA NGGA JFHQ COS
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2006 3:37 PM
To: Edwards, Gregory B COL USA NGGA 78th Troop Command; McLendon, Larry G COL USA NGGA; Till, John LTC USA NGGA 171st HHC; Brookshire, Dawn MAJ USA NGGA R R; Young, David K COL USA NGGA JFHQ G3; Crowder, Stan COL USA NGGA JFHQ G1; Romine, Harve T COL USA NGGA JFHQ G3; Durden, Andrew C COL USA NGGA JFHQ G4; Day, William E Lt Col USA NGGA JFHQ J6; Vanamburgh, Peter LTC USA NGGA; Britt, Timothy B COL USA NGGA JFHQ HHD; Godleski, Raymond J Jr COL USA NGGA USPFO
Subject: Policy Memo - Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program and Unit Victim Advocates
Attachments: Document.pdf



Document.pdf (135 KB)

The attached memorandum is forwarded for immediate dissemination to your subordinate units/activities.

CW5 Robin James



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
GEORGIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
HEADQUARTERS, OGLETHORPE ARMORY
5019 HIGHWAY 42
ELLENWOOD, GEORGIA 30294 - 3438

S: 12 March 2006

CG-ARMY

10 February 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR Each Unit and Detachment Commander, Georgia Army National Guard

SUBJECT: Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program and Unit Victim Advocates

1. The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program reinforces the National Guard's commitment to eliminate incidents of sexual assault through a comprehensive policy that centers on awareness and prevention, training and education, victim advocacy, response, reporting, follow-up and accountability. The goals of the SAPR Program are to:

- a. Create a climate that minimizes sexual assault incidents, which impact Georgia National Guard personnel and, if an incident should occur, to ensure that victims and subjects are treated according to the National Guard Bureau policy.
- b. Create a climate that encourages victims to report incidents of sexual assault without fear.
- c. Establish sexual assault prevention training and awareness programs to educate all Soldiers.
- d. Ensure sensitive and comprehensive treatment to restore victims' health and well-being.
- e. Ensure leaders at all levels understand their roles and responsibilities regarding response to sexual assault victims, thoroughly investigating allegations of sexual assault, and taking appropriate administrative and disciplinary action.

2. The Department of Defense definition of sexual assault is any intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, physical threat or abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault includes rape, nonconsensual sodomy (oral or anal sex), indecent assault (unwanted, inappropriate sexual contact or fondling), or attempts to commit these acts. Sexual assault can occur without regard to gender, spousal relationship or age of the victim. "Consent" shall not be deemed or construed to mean the failure by the victim to offer physical resistance. Consent is not given when a person uses force, threat of force, coercion or when the victim is asleep, incapacitated, or unconscious.

3. The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program utilizes Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARC) to administer the SAPR program and for system advocacy. The SARC provides oversight to the Victim Advocates when responding to a sexual assault case and is the primary contact for the Command and the "center of gravity" for the SAPR program. Along with Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARC), unit commanders will appoint and utilize Victim Advocates (VA) for victim advocacy services.

4. The term Victim Advocate is used to describe an individual who is trained to respond to each report of sexual assault by providing advocacy support to victims. It is a soldier who is appointed, on collateral duty as a Victim Advocate(VA), to a battalion (or equivalent Army unit). The advocate can provide crisis intervention, referral and ongoing non-clinical support to the victim of sexual assault. This includes providing information on available options and resources so the victim can make informed decisions. The VA will make sure the information provided to the victim is accurate and comprehensive and will accompany the victim, at the victim's request, during investigative interviews and medical examinations.

"Always Ready, Always There"

CG-ARMY 8 February 2006

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5. Department of the Army and the Department of Defense have issued a requirement of one deployable SARC (E7 and above; MAJ/CW3 or higher, in collateral duty) for every brigade/unit of action and higher level units, and two deployable VAs (E6 and above; 1LT/CW2 and higher, in collateral duty) per battalion level or equivalent unit. SARCs and VAs are considered deployable when they have completed the approved 40 hour training block and will assume the duties of a SARC/VA during deployments and mobilizations.

6. Commanders at battalion level and Georgia Army National Guard Headquarters will appoint, on collateral duty, a minimum of two soldiers each, as a victim advocate (VA). Appointment letters will be forwarded to the Army SARC, MAJ Cheryl Hendrix (cheryl.hendrix@us.army.mil), within 30 days of this memorandum. Because of the sensitivity and complexity of working with sexual assault victims, the VA must be carefully selected. VAs are likely to become involved in highly charged, emotionally stressful situations in assisting victims of sexual assault. As a result, all candidates must be screened and complete the required VA training. The VA must have completed the training prior to responding to any victim of sexual assault. The VA will be selected in accordance with the following requirements:

- a. Be recommended by the chain of command.
- b. Be able to respond to a sexual assault incident at anytime when on call.
- c. Have outstanding duty performance, as evidenced by a review of the individual's records.
- d. Demonstrate stability in personal affairs. The individual will not have a history of domestic violence, significant indebtedness, excessive use of alcohol, or any use of illegal drugs.
- e. Not have been a victim or perpetrator of sexual assault.
- f. Must not have been punished under the provisions of the UCMJ.
- g. Must have a minimum of two years of service remaining.
- h. Must have the rank of SSG (E6) or higher, or 1LT (O2) or higher.
- i. Must be appointed on orders to the collateral duty of Victim Advocate (VA).

7. Training for VAs will be conducted through the National Guard Bureau (dates and locations TBD). This training will cover topics ranging from policy definitions, types Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program and Unit Victim Advocates of sexual assault, prevention efforts, response to victims, deployment issue, forensic protocols, victim safety, communication skills, judicial process, civilian agency relationships, data collection and the duties of the VA.

8. Duties of a VA will primarily include providing crisis intervention, provide support to the victim throughout the medical, investigative, and judicial process, referral to civilian and military victim service agencies for assistance (i.e. local rape crisis center, Military One Source), communication and coordination with the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), attend and complete appropriate training, meet the standards for selection, and complete required reports on incidents of sexual assault that will include referrals to victim services.

9. The Georgia Army National Guard Sexual Assault Response Coordinator is Major Cheryl Hendrix at (678)655-4088; cheryl.hendrix@us.army.mil .

DISTRIBUTION: A


WILLIAM T. NESBITT
MG, GAARNG
Commanding

James, Robin M CW5 USA NGGA JFHQ COS

From: Kuettel, Meinrad M CSM USA NGGA 171st HHC
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2006 6:49 PM
To: Till, John LTC USA NGGA 171st HHC; James, Robin M CW5 USA NGGA JFHQ COS; Hendrix, Cheryl MAJ
Subject: RE: Policy Memo - Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program and Unit Victim Advocates

The VA for the 1-171st AVN BN will be:

MSG Michael Russell ←
SFC Grace Young ←

CSM Meinrad Kuettel
1-171st AVN BN
1st AVN GRP OPNS NCOIC
678-569-3611

"I have come to realize that life lived to help others is the only one that matters and that it is my duty, in return for the lavish life God has devolved upon me, to help others He has placed in my path. This is my highest and best use as a human." Ben Stein

-----Original Message-----

From: Till, John LTC USA NGGA 171st HHC
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2006 3:48 PM
To: Atkinson, Vernon C LTC USA NGGA AASF 3; Banks, Bobby SSG USA NGGA JFHQ HHD; Batchelor, Lloyd E Jr Mr GS-9 USA NGGA; Berg, Douglas M CW2 USA NGGA 171st Co C; Boyer, John MAJ USA NGGA; Bracewell, Brent LTC USA NGGA; Brown, Michael A. CW2; Buck, Christopher CPT USA NGGA; Duplechien, Anthony CPT USA NGGA 171st HHC; Fryman, Jason W CPT USA NGGA AASF 2; Gahring, Douglas G CW4 USA NGGA 171st Co H; Gaston, Brock LTC USA NGGA; Godbolt, Laresa SSG USA NGGA JFHQ HHD; Goodrich, Lynn; Hay, Harold H. CW4 NGGA; Hebblethwaite, Steve SFC USA NGGA; Hedrick, Robert E III CW2 USA NGGA AASF 1; Henson, Joseph B CPT USA NGGA 171st Co A; Hepler, Ed CSM USA NGGA AASF 2; Herndon, Jeff SFC USA NGGA 171st Co C; Johnson, Jack CW5 USA NGGA AASF 3; Kuettel, Meinrad M CSM USA NGGA 171st HHC; Lipetzky, Karl CPT USA NGGA; Livingston, Dannis COL USA NGGA; Mullen, David J CW4 USA NGGA; Oberholtzer, Greg CW4 USA NGGA; Rikard, Timmy B 1SG USA NGGA; Russell, Michael A 1SG USA NGGA 171st Co A; Ryles, Bernice SFC USA NGGA JFHQ HHD; Simmons, Barry; Whitfield, Kim SFC USA NGGA; Wilson, Dwayne MAJ USA NGGA AASF 1; Woodward, Charles CW3 USA NGGA 131st Co F Det
Subject: FW: Policy Memo - Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program and Unit Victim Advocates

JT

John M. Till
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