



## Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

Sexual assault is a corrosive crime that contradicts everything that we stand for as Marines and Sailors. It destroys trust and cohesion, and it is incompatible with our core values of honor, courage, and commitment. We are all members of the same team, and we all have a role to play in eliminating sexual assault from the Marine Corps.

Leaders must ensure that all members of this command know how to recognize sexual assault indicators and how they can intervene to prevent sexual assaults. We must take care of each other – do not allow a fellow Marine, Sailor, or civilian to be victimized. If you witness anyone physically, sexually, or verbally assaulting another person, it is your duty and moral obligation to stop it and report it!

Military personnel who observe the crime, or who act in a law enforcement capacity, are mandatory reporters and therefore must report known, suspected, or alleged sexual assaults to the victim's chain of command. If you are unsure if you are a mandatory reporter, contact the SARC for further guidance.

There are two reporting options available to Service members and their adult military dependents: Restricted and Unrestricted Reporting. A Restricted Report does not prompt command notification or an investigation. An Unrestricted Report prompts command notification and an investigation. Both reporting options provide a victim access to counseling, medical, chaplain support, Victim Legal Counsel (VLC), Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocate (SAPR VA) support and services. To utilize the Restricted Reporting option, personnel should contact a SARC, SAPR VA, medical personnel *aboard military installations*, Chaplain, or VLC.

Everyone is a valued and critical member of this team. As a team of professionals, we will eliminate this unprofessional behavior for our ranks and safeguard against the conditions enabling sexual assaults. It is our duty to ensure we maintain the high standards of the Marine Corps and the expectations of the American People who have entrusted their citizens to our service.

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