



# DIRECTORATE OF PREVENTION, RESILIENCE AND READINESS



**SHARP**  
SEXUAL HARASSMENT/ASSAULT  
RESPONSE AND PREVENTION

## FACTSHEET

UPDATED NOVEMBER 2023

### HELP FOR SOLDIERS (AND MILITARY DEPENDENTS 18+)

#### IF YOU HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED

**1**

##### GO TO A SAFE LOCATION AWAY FROM THE PERSON WHO SEXUALLY ASSAULTED YOU

If you're in immediate danger, CALL 911 (inside the U.S.) or your installation's emergency services.

Please know what happened isn't your fault. Nothing you did or didn't do caused this to happen.

**2**

##### CONSIDER SEEKING MEDICAL CARE

Seeking medical care may not feel like a priority, especially if you don't have visible physical injuries. However, it can be helpful to receive medical care and/or a sexual assault forensic exam to assess for less visible injuries and risks for sexually transmitted disease or pregnancy.

**3**

##### GET HELP – YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO THROUGH THIS ALONE

If you aren't sure what to do or just want someone to talk to, contact your local SHARP Hotline or DoD Safe Helpline: 1-877-995-5247.

You can also reach out to the service providers listed on the back of this fact sheet under "Who can help?" You can receive contact information for these providers by contacting DoD Safe Helpline or visiting the DoD Safe Helpline website: [www.safehelpline.org](http://www.safehelpline.org)

### SOLDIERS AND ADULT FAMILY MEMBERS HAVE OPTIONS ABOUT HOW TO REPORT

#### Restricted Report

Filing a Restricted Report allows you to confidentially disclose a sexual assault to a SARC or VA without notifying your command or law enforcement. When you file a Restricted Report, you are eligible for:

- Medical Treatment
- Sexual Assault Forensic Exam
- Counseling
- Chaplain Services
- Special Victims' Counsel
- Legal Advocacy
- Victim Advocacy

You may change a Restricted Report to an Unrestricted Report at any time.

#### A victim can file a Restricted Report even if...

1. The sexual assault has been previously disclosed to command by the victim, suspect, or third party;
2. The sexual assault has been reported to law enforcement, to include the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division, by anyone other than the victim; or
3. An investigation is initiated, in progress, or closed

#### Victims may elect to make a Restricted Report of sexual assault at any time, EXCEPT in cases where the victim:

- Personally, reported the incident to law enforcement (including CID); or
- Previously filed an Unrestricted Report with a signed DD Form 2910 (the Victim Reporting Preference Statement) for the same sexual assault

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# FACTSHEET

## HELP FOR SOLDIERS (And Military Dependents 18+)

### SOLDIERS HAVE OPTIONS ABOUT HOW TO REPORT *CONT'D*

#### Unrestricted Report

Filing an Unrestricted Report allows for an official investigation, command notification, and reporting to law enforcement. You can make an Unrestricted Report to a SARC or VA. When you file an Unrestricted Report you are eligible for:

- Medical Treatment
- Sexual Assault Forensic Exam
- Counseling
- Chaplain Services
- Special Victims' Counsel
- Victim Advocacy
- Command Support/Intervention
- Official Investigation

An Unrestricted Report also allows you to request protective and support measures like an expedited transfer and military protective order.

#### WHO CAN HELP?

##### SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COORDINATOR (SARC)

Soldier or Civilian who oversees sexual assault awareness, prevention, and response training; coordinates medical treatment, including emergency care, for victims of sexual assault; and tracks the services provided to a victim of sexual assault from the initial report through final disposition and resolution. Conversations with SARCs are confidential and privileged. SARCs can take Restricted and Unrestricted Reports of sexual assault.

##### VICTIM ADVOCATE (VA)

Soldier or Civilian who provides non-clinical crisis intervention, information on available options and resources, and ongoing non-clinical support to victims. Conversations with VAs are confidential and privileged. VAs can take Restricted and Unrestricted Reports of sexual assault.

##### SPECIAL VICTIMS' COUNSEL (SVC)

Military attorney who assists you in a confidential and privileged, attorney-client relationship, whether or not you choose to file a report. SVCs can't take a report of sexual assault.

##### HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

A health care provider who has been designated for Clinical Services, to manage sexual assault patient's medical treatment related to the sexual assault incident from initial presentation to completion of all follow-up visits.

##### CHAPLAIN

Military officer who provides confidential, spiritual advice and the opportunity to privately discuss your concerns, even if you aren't religious. Conversations with a chaplain are confidential and protected by military law. Chaplains can't take a report of sexual assault.

##### VICTIM WITNESS LIAISON (VWL)

Specially trained legal worker who supports the military prosecutor throughout the courts-martial process. They can help you get to military proceedings, arrange for transportation, and apply for crime victim's compensation. Conversations with VWLs aren't confidential. VWLs can't take a report of sexual assault.



#### DOD SAFE HELPLINE APP

The Safe Helpline app is a free mobile resource created to meet the unique needs of members of the Department of Defense community affected by sexual assault. By downloading the app, you can access 24/7 support through Safe Helpline's Telephone and Online Helplines. You can also get information, resources, and practical exercises to help address the short- and long-term effects of sexual assault and help you manage your self-care.

[WWW.ARMYRESILIENCE.ARMY.MIL/SHARP](http://WWW.ARMYRESILIENCE.ARMY.MIL/SHARP)

DoD SAFE HELPLINE: 877-995-5247

[WWW.SAFEHELPLINE.ORG](http://WWW.SAFEHELPLINE.ORG)

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