

### **Sexual Assault and Prevention Response (SAPR)**

Every unit member, military or civilian, will actively support the Air Force's "zero tolerance" policy for sexual harassment and sexual assault. Every member is expected to maintain a professional work environment that enables personnel to achieve their full potential while maximizing their contributions towards the mission. The Eastern Air Defense Sector will not tolerate any actions, verbal or physical, that demean the dignity and respect of another person. It is our responsibility as fellow wingmen and trained active bystanders to enforce the standards set before us, prevent unsafe behaviors, and correct and/or report inappropriate behavior.

#### **Sexual Assault Defined**

Sexual assault is the intentional sexual contact characterized by use of force, threats, intimidation or abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent.

## **Reporting Process**

Sexual assault prevention, processes of reporting, investigation and advocacy/victim assistance fall under the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program. There are two methods of reporting available to a sexual assault victim/survivor: restricted and unrestricted reporting. Restricted reporting is when a sexual assault victim wants to file a report on a confidential basis, and does not want an investigation initiated. By doing this, the victim will still be able to seek physical and behavioral health care while understanding that no legal actions will be taken against the offender. If an unrestricted report is chosen, that information is shared on a need-to-know only basis with command and a law enforcement investigation is initiated. The SAPR team can provide support and referrals for medical, behavioral health, and legal assistance. This support can be provided for as long as the survivor requests it (for both restricted/unrestricted reports). If requested, the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator will assign a certified Victim Advocate to provide unbiased support to a victim of sexual assault.

The person you report the sexual assault to can highly affect the method of reporting that is available, as some unit members are mandated reporters (supervisors, chain of command). To ensure both reporting options are available, sexual assault reports should be made directly to the SARC, a Victim Advocate, or the Joint Force Headquarters SARC. If a report is made to a unit member outside the SAPR program that is a mandated reporter (i.e., supervisor, First Sergeant) the report must be initiated as an unrestricted report. In the event a member is unsure whether or not an incident is a matter of sexual assault or sexual harassment, it is recommended to talk to a

member within the SAPR program and they will ensure you are provided care within the applicable program. Though the reporting procedures for sexual assault and sexual harassment are different, every allegation of inappropriate behavior will be treated with sensitivity and with the utmost seriousness. Most importantly, how you decide to move forward is 100% your choice - the SAPR team is here to provide you with information and support whatever decision you make. You can contact the 24/7 SAPR Helpline at any time to discuss your options.

#### **SAPR Points of Contact**

# 1. Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)

Megan Rhubart, 174th ATKW SARC cell: 315-418-8784

# 2. Victim Advocates (VAs)

1LT Carley Ditro MSgt Jason Hanavan SSgt William Little MSgt Katie Miller SSgt Jovan Wimberly MSgt Angelina Palmer

## SAPR Initial Resource Contacts:

DoD Safe Helpline: www.safehelpline.org or 1-877-995-5247

EADS/174th Attack Wing SAPR 24/7 HelpLine: 315-466-6645