



Department of Defense Family Advocacy Program: Addressing Domestic Abuse

**Briefing to the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services
December 5, 2023**

*Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
Military Community & Family Policy*





Published Regulations, Policies, and Instructions Related to Domestic and Intimate Partner Abuse

DOD Instructions and Manuals		
DoDI 6400.01	Family Advocacy Program https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/640001p.pdf?ver=2019-05-01-081705-580	1 May 2019
DoDM 6400.01, Vol 1	Family Advocacy Program (FAP): FAP Standards https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodm/640001m_vol1.pdf?ver=2019-07-22-100753-203	22 July 2019
DoDM 6400.01, Vol 2	FAP: Child Abuse and Domestic Abuse Incident Reporting System https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodm/640001m_vol2.pdf	11 August 2016
DoDM 6400.01, Vol 3	FAP: Clinical Case Staff Meeting (CCSM) and Incident Determination Committee (IDC) https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodm/640001m_vol03.PDF?ver=VIHGJ0kCCGuApm21-C7pNQ%3d%3d	16 July 2021
DoDM 6400.01, Vol 4	Family Advocacy Program (FAP): Guidelines for Clinical Intervention for Persons Reported as Domestic Abusers https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodm/640001m_vol4.pdf?ver=2019-03-22-095444-007	2 March 2015
DoDI 6400.03	Family Advocacy Command Assistance Team (FACAT) https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/640003p.pdf?ver=2019-08-12-152606-497	3 April 2017
DoDI 6400.06	DoD Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Abuse Involving DoD Military and Affiliated Personnel https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/640006p.pdf?ver=vX8kQHt201rXkVrKDq9_jA%3d%3d	16 May 2023
DoDI 6400.07	Standards for Victim Assistance Services in the Military Community https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/640007p.pdf?ver=2019-04-03-145816-943	6 July 2018
DoDI 1342.24	Transitional Compensation for Abused Dependents (TCAD) https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/134224p.pdf?ver=2019-09-23-124311-307	23 September 2019



References and Resources

- DoD Report on Child Abuse and Neglect and Domestic Abuse in the Military for Fiscal Year 2022, available
<https://download.militaryonesource.mil/12038/MOS/Reports/FINAL-DoD-FAP-Report-FY2022.pdf>
- Department of Defense Domestic Abuse Victim Advocate Locator
<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/leaders-service-providers/child-abuse-and-domestic-abuse/victim-advocate-locator>



DoD Definitions of Domestic Abuse and Domestic Violence

Domestic Abuse (DA)

- Domestic violence, or a pattern of behavior resulting in emotional or psychological abuse, economic control, or interference with personal liberty that is directed toward a person who is a:
 - Current or former spouse;
 - Person with whom the alleged abuser shares a child in common;
 - Current or former intimate partner with whom the alleged abuser shares or has shared a common domicile; or
 - Person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the accused and determined to be an intimate partner (as defined in this issuance).



DoD Definitions of Domestic Abuse and Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence (DV)

- An offense under the U.S.C., the UCMJ, or State or local law involving the use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or violence against a person, or a violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person, who is a:
 - Current or former spouse;
 - Person with whom the alleged abuser shares a child in common;
 - Current or former intimate partner with whom the alleged abuser shares or has shared a common domicile; or
 - Person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the accused and determined to be an intimate partner (as defined in this issuance).



DoD Definitions of Domestic Abuse and Domestic Violence

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

- Within the context of eligibility for FAP services, a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the alleged abuser, as determined by the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the person and the alleged abuser. An intimate partner is informed by, but not limited to, the totality of factors such as:
 - Previous or ongoing consensual intimate or sexual behaviors.
 - History of ongoing dating or expressed interest in continued dating or the potential for an ongoing relationship (e.g. history of repeated break-ups and reconciliations).
 - Self-identification by the victim or alleged abuser as intimate partners or identification by others as a couple.
 - Emotional connectedness (e.g., relationship is a priority, partners may have discussed a future together).
 - Familiarity and knowledge of each other's lives.

FAP Domestic Abuse Data Flow and Review



Reports of Domestic Abuse Incidents



Military Service Case Management System/Central Registry

Service-level quality assurance processes



DoD FAP Central Registry (Unrestricted Reports Only)

DoD-level quality assurance
processes

Bi-annual data working group
meetings



FAP Domestic Abuse Data and Metrics

The data provided includes counts of reports, met criteria incidents, unique victims, and unique abusers of domestic abuse FY 2012-FY2022. The data source is the DoD Central Registry end-of-fiscal year snapshot file for each referenced fiscal year. The Department has undertaken numerous efforts to improve data quality over time. There are several data caveats for consideration:

- Reports of abuse in FY2012-FY2020 were calculated by the sum of met criteria rows and rows that did not meet criteria. Reports in FY2021-FY2022 were calculated by abuse type, using the alleged abuse code fields.
- Historical counts from FY2012-FY2015 reflect new, more accurate calculation methods and differ from the methods employed at that time.
- Counts of unique victims or abusers means that a victim (or abuser) is counted only once within a category regardless of the number of incidents of abuse in which that victim (or abuser) may have been involved.



FY2012-FY2022

Reports and Met Criteria Incidents of Domestic Abuse

Reports of Domestic Abuse by Victim Type

Victim Type	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Spouse Abuse	18,558	17,153	16,190	15,784	15,144	15,657	15,242	13,571	12,663	12,630	12,636
Intimate Partner Abuse	1,698	1,843	1,828	1,719	1,771	1,519	1,670	1,902	2,026	2,342	2,843
Total Domestic Abuse Reports	20,256	18,996	18,018	17,503	16,915	17,176	16,912	15,473	14,689	14,972	15,479

Met Criteria Incidents of Domestic Abuse by Victim Type and Abuse Type

Victim Type	Abuse Type	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Spouse Abuse	Emotional	1,708	1,679	1,628	1,774	1,762	1,605	1,617	1,541	1,508	1,563	1,777
	Neglect	14	8	8	4	7	4	5	4	3	4	0
	Physical	7,076	6,620	6,183	5,948	5,624	5,290	5,159	5,026	4,828	4,744	4,518
	Sexual	187	187	213	238	265	254	234	229	257	318	342
	Total Met Criteria Incidents	8,985	8,494	8,032	7,964	7,658	7,153	7,015	6,800	6,596	6,629	6,637
Intimate Partner Abuse	Emotional	127	161	178	172	203	169	203	225	287	304	361
	Neglect	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Physical	823	885	824	779	778	701	765	815	950	933	1,147
	Sexual	13	18	29	30	43	46	56	81	70	91	162
	Total Met Criteria Incidents	963	1,064	1,031	981	1,024	916	1,024	1,121	1,307	1,328	1,670
Domestic Abuse Total	Emotional	1,835	1,840	1,806	1,946	1,965	1,774	1,820	1,766	1,795	1,867	2,138
	Neglect	14	8	8	4	7	4	5	4	3	4	0
	Physical	7,899	7,505	7,007	6,727	6,402	5,991	5,924	5,841	5,778	5,677	5,665
	Sexual	200	205	242	268	308	300	290	310	327	409	504
	Total Met Criteria Incidents	9,948	9,558	9,063	8,945	8,682	8,069	8,039	7,921	7,903	7,957	8,307



FY2012-FY2022

Unique Victims in Met Criteria Incidents of Domestic Abuse by Sex

Fiscal Year	Unique Victims of Spouse Abuse				Unique Victims of Intimate Partner Abuse			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
FY 2012	4,938	2,493	16	7,447	617	239	1	857
FY 2013	4,407	2,505	0	6,912	639	278	0	917
FY 2014	4,160	2,323	0	6,483	620	245	0	865
FY 2015	3,986	2,313	1	6,300	541	268	0	809
FY 2016	3,901	2,119	0	6,020	595	249	0	844
FY 2017	3,651	2,103	0	5,754	533	223	0	756
FY 2018	3,573	1,958	0	5,531	584	236	0	820
FY 2019	3,549	1,956	0	5,505	649	237	0	886
FY 2020	3,565	1,798	0	5,363	737	259	0	996
FY 2021	3,597	1,679	0	5,276	772	276	0	1,048
FY 2022	3,529	1,683	0	5,212	940	330	0	1,270



FY2012-FY2022

Unique Abusers in Met Criteria Incidents of Domestic Abuse by Sex

Fiscal Year	Unique Abusers of Spouse Abuse				Unique Abusers of Intimate Partner Abuse			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
FY 2012	2,509	4,902	24	7,435	256	590	1	847
FY 2013	2,492	4,394	1	6,887	292	623	1	916
FY 2014	2,319	4,156	2	6,477	268	594	1	863
FY 2015	2,364	3,919	0	6,283	268	536	1	805
FY 2016	2,190	3,821	0	6,011	261	571	1	833
FY 2017	2,195	3,541	1	5,737	246	502	1	749
FY 2018	2,088	3,447	0	5,535	237	580	0	817
FY 2019	2,044	3,470	0	5,514	259	624	0	883
FY 2020	1,909	3,462	0	5,371	269	720	0	989
FY 2021	1,773	3,520	0	5,293	302	736	0	1,038
FY 2022	1,755	3,456	0	5,211	369	887	0	1,256



FY2020 – FY2023

Changes Made To Policy

- DoDI 6400.06: Initial issuance. Expanded intimate partner definition to include those in dating relationships, added victim choice in instances of sexual abuse, allows victims to disclose abuse to certain individuals without forcing an unrestricted report, and provides guidance for expedited transfer.
- DoDI 6400.06 change 2: Changes domestic abuse mandatory training from annually to frequency as determined by the Military Departments.
- DoDM 6400.01 Volume 3 change 1: The change incorporates the GAO recommendation to modify IDC membership and voting guidelines, and amends responsibilities of health care providers as core IDC members.

FY2020 – FY2023 Updates



- Reissued policy expanding the definition of intimate partner, December 2021
- Military Community & Family Policy (MC&FP) assumed leadership of the Department's CCR with the Military Community Advocacy (MCA) directorate to serve as a sustained, coordinating function that brings together all entities that have equity in an incident of domestic abuse.
- CCR stood up a Law Enforcement Working Group with Service specific expert representatives to consult on and facilitate activities to improve law enforcement response in line with logic model outputs.
- Completed prevention analysis and environmental scan of Services' prevention efforts and coordination with DoD components addressing other violent/harmful behaviors.

FY2020 – FY2023 Initiatives



- Updated the "FAP for Leaders" course with a name change to, "OSD –101 Abuse Within Relationships and Families: For Leaders" and transitioned it from MilLife Learning platform to the JKO platform, which is more universally accessible to Service members, the identified audience for the training.
- Coordinated with Service Chaplains to discuss the 5Ws of mandatory training requirements for Chaplains and how FAP training for Chaplains is tracked/collected and forwarded to OSD.
- Completed the "FY2023 Family Advocacy Program Non-DoD Entry Point Environmental Scan" scan, which was congressionally mandated.

FY2020 – FY2023 Initiatives (cont.)



- Revamped the Domestic Abuse Victim Advocate Locator on MilitaryOneSource.mil.
- MCA customized support plan for enhancing processes and protocols for DoD CCR to include training, risk and lethality assessment, and information sharing and strategic communications.
- CCR leads the Executive Steering Committee meeting quarterly.
- MC&FP developed and disseminated a department wide Domestic Abuse Outreach and Engagement communications plan, "United Against Domestic Abuse" in February 2022.
- MC&FP compiled and disseminated customizable communications materials to public affairs leads of the Military Services, to share the plans across public affairs networks.
- MCA conducted Deputy's Workforce Council (DWC) directed Communication Site visits to four installations across all branches to determine strengths and barriers to the execution of the communication plans.