

# **Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS)**



**December 2023**

**Requests for Information # 5**

**Family Advocacy Program  
and  
Criminal Investigation Division  
Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps**



## RFI # 5a Intimate Partners Violence and Domestic Abuse

---

**RFI #5a.** Copies of or links to all published regulations, policies, and other instructions or guidance addressing the matter of domestic and intimate/dating partner abuse and outlining the range of response and care resources, procedures, and protection measures.

### **Response**

- MCO [1754.11A](#) MARINE CORPS FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM
- DoDI [6400.01](#) Family Advocacy Program
- DoDM 6400.01, Family Advocacy Program
- Clinical Case Staff Meeting and Incident Determination Committee [V1](#), [V3](#), [V4](#)
- DoDI [6400.06](#) Domestic Abuse Involving DoD Military and Certain Affiliated Personnel



## RFI # 5b Intimate Partners Violence and Domestic Abuse

---

**RFI #5b.** FAP & Military Services: Provide DoD and Service policy definitions of domestic abuse/violence and whether those inflicting such abuse or violence include persons other than spouses, such as intimate or dating partners.

### Response

- Intimate Partner is defined in DoDM 6400.01 V3 as: a person with whom the victim shares a child in common or with whom the victim shares or has shared a common domicile. DODI 6400.06 expanded the definition, and defines intimate partner as follows:
- 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.



## RFI # 5c Intimate Partners Violence and Domestic Abuse

---

**RFI #5c.** FAP & Military Services: Identify policy, reporting, or other changes or updates to policies made in the last four years (FY20-FY23) related to reporting, data collection, resources available to abuse victims and coordination with civilian authorities.

### **Response**

- DoDI 6400.06 expanded the definition of intimate partner in Dec 2021 to include individuals in a dating relationship, as defined previously.



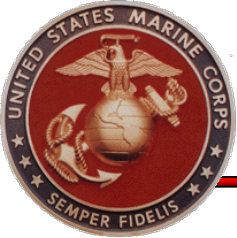
## RFI # 5d Intimate Partners Violence and Domestic Abuse

**RFI #5d.** Provide data/metrics collected regarding the number of domestic and intimate partner abuse incidents reported or otherwise known to authorities for FY12-FY22 and include a breakout of whether the incidents involved spouses or intimate/dating partners, as well as the genders of the abusers and victims. If available, provide a breakdown of the total number by type of domestic and intimate partner abuse incidents (e.g., physical, emotional, sexual). However, do not include data for child abuse or neglect incidents.

### Response

- The Marine Corps provides the below preliminary data as of 13 Nov 23 and acknowledges OSD MCFP will provide final data for DACOWITS to ensure consistency of reporting across the Services. These are total reports.

Fiscal Year	Marine Corps		
	Spouse Abuse	Intimate Partner Abuse	Total
FY 2012	2,270	145	2,415
FY 2013	2,176	151	2,327
FY 2014	2,183	160	2,343
FY 2015	2,252	170	2,422
FY 2016	2,285	176	2,461
FY 2017	3,322	89	3,411
FY 2018	3,267	102	3,369
FY 2019	2,210	192	2,402
FY 2020	2,134	188	2,322
FY 2021	1,875	227	2,102
FY 2022	1,778	317	2,095



# RFI # 5d Cont. Intimate Partners Violence and Domestic Abuse

**RFI #5d Cont.** Provide data/metrics collected regarding the number of domestic and intimate partner abuse incidents reported or otherwise known to authorities for FY12-FY22 and include a breakout of whether the incidents involved spouses or intimate/dating partners, as well as the genders of the abusers and victims. If available, provide a breakdown of the total number by type of domestic and intimate partner abuse incidents (e.g., physical, emotional, sexual). However, do not include data for child abuse or neglect incidents.

## Response

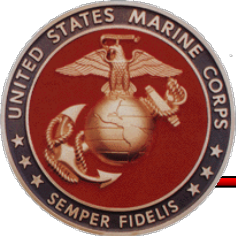
➤ The Marine Corps provides the below preliminary data as of 13 Nov 23 and acknowledges OSD MCFP will provide final data for DACOWITS to ensure consistency of reporting across the Services. These are met criteria incidents, as abuse type information is only retained per policy when the incident meets criteria.

FY2012-FY2022 Met Criteria Incidents of Spouse Abuse by Abuse Type

Service	Abuse Type	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Marine Corps	Emotional	107	114	152	192	181	199	220	172	159	159	181
	Neglect	3	1	3	2	0	2	0	2	0	1	0
	Physical	873	822	820	827	754	725	711	639	639	525	545
	Sexual	26	23	34	21	34	48	37	31	42	35	39
	Total Met Criteria Incidents	1,009	960	1,009	1,042	969	974	968	844	840	720	765

FY2012-FY2022 Met Criteria Incidents of Intimate Partner Abuse by Abuse Type

Service	Abuse Type	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Marine Corps	Emotional	7	5	13	12	12	17	19	15	21	23	45
	Neglect	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Physical	71	82	68	80	85	65	79	69	76	83	136
	Sexual	1	3	4	3	5	5	4	8	2	3	17
	Total Met Criteria Incidents	79	90	85	95	102	87	102	92	99	109	198



## RFI # 5d Cont. Intimate Partners Violence and Domestic Abuse

**RFI #5d Cont.** Provide data/metrics collected regarding the number of domestic and intimate partner abuse incidents reported or otherwise known to authorities for FY12-FY22 and include a breakout of whether the incidents involved spouses or intimate/dating partners, as well as the genders of the abusers and victims. If available, provide a breakdown of the total number by type of domestic and intimate partner abuse incidents (e.g., physical, emotional, sexual). However, do not include data for child abuse or neglect incidents.

### Response

- The Marine Corps provides the below preliminary data as of 13 Nov 23 and acknowledges OSD MCFP will provide final data for DACOWITS to ensure consistency of reporting across the Services. These are met criteria incidents, as this information is only retained per policy when the incident meets criteria. These tables also focus on unique victims; a victim may have multiple incidents in the same year.

FY2012-FY2022 Unique Victims in Met Criteria Incidents of Spouse Abuse by Sex

Fiscal Year	Marine Corps		
	Female	Male	Total
FY 2012	550	346	896
FY 2013	516	336	852
FY 2014	553	318	871
FY 2015	548	325	873
FY 2016	509	307	816
FY 2017	492	296	788
FY 2018	474	282	756
FY 2019	416	273	689
FY 2020	408	213	621
FY 2021	355	192	547
FY 2022	371	182	553

FY2012-FY2022 Unique Victims in Met Criteria Incidents of Intimate Partner Abuse by Sex

Fiscal Year	Marine Corps		
	Female	Male	Total
FY 2012	58	17	75
FY 2013	58	29	87
FY 2014	56	21	77
FY 2015	52	32	84
FY 2016	63	23	86
FY 2017	47	27	74
FY 2018	55	24	79
FY 2019	56	23	79
FY 2020	54	21	75
FY 2021	59	24	83
FY 2022	99	38	137



## RFI # 5e Intimate Partners Violence and Domestic Abuse

---

**RFI #5e.** Are military authorities required to notify civilian authorities when a military protection order (MPO) is issued?

### **Response**

- Yes. Pursuant to the interim MCBul 5810, Encl (6), and MARADMIN 216/20, para. 2.D-2.E, MPOs are required to be entered into NCIC (the civilian-run National Crime Information Center index).
- Additionally, the Marine Corps is currently staffing Marine Corps Order 5580.6, Criminal Justice Information Reporting Policy. Enclosure (2), paragraph 4.b of the draft order specifies that “COs shall ensure the appropriate civilian and military LEA, subject Service Member, and protected person(s) are notified that an MPO has been issued.”
- See also 10 U.S.C. § 1657a; DoDI 6400.06, para. 3.5.d.(3)(b).





## RFI # 5f Intimate Partners Violence and Domestic Abuse

---

**RFI #5f**. What are the criteria for issuance of an MPO and who has the authority to issue such an order? What is the governing regulation and link thereto?

### **Response**

- Under interim policy, an MPO may be issued by Commanding Officers “whenever necessary to safeguard a victim, quell a disturbance, or ensure the safety of any person.” MARADMIN 216/20, para. 2.A.
- See also the interim MCBul 5810, Encl (6); the draft MCO 5580.6, Encl (2), para. 4; DoDI 6400.6, para. 3.5.c.(5)-(8)



## RFI # 5g Intimate Partners Violence and Domestic Abuse

---

**RFI #5g.** How many MPOs have been issued in the last 10 years to safeguard servicewomen?

### **Response**

- MPOs are tracked at the local command level authority, and we do not maintain any records on how many were issued.



## RFI # 5h Intimate Partners Violence and Domestic Abuse

---

**RFI #5h.** What efforts are being undertaken to ensure no dangerous weapons are in a household where both the abuser and victim reside?

### **Response**

- In the generalized case, military authorities have limited lawful ability to accomplish the removal of weapons. When an abuser is a prohibited person under existing law:
  - “COs shall not permit [them] access to privately owned firearms stored in unit armories.” MCBul 5810, Encl (2), para. 5.a.
  - COs shall “[c]ounsel the individual in writing to abide by Federal law.” MCBul 5810, Encl (2), para. 6.a.(1).
  - If the prohibition is temporary, “[t]he Commander may (but is not required to) offer the individual temporary storage (without access) in unit armories.” MCBul 5810, Encl (2), para. 6.a.(1)(b).
  - If the prohibition is permanent, COs shall “[c]ounsel the individual in writing . . . to make arrangements to dispose of all such items,” MCBul 5810, Encl (2), para. 6.a.(1), and “[c]oordinate with the PMO to provide an escort for the Service Member to remove all personally-owned firearms and ammunition to and from the place of transfer,” MCBul 5810, Encl (2), para. 6.a.(2).
  - “In cases involving firearms or ammunition not stored or located within an area under Marine Corps jurisdiction, coordinate with civilian LEAs via PMO and the servicing SJA.” MCBul 5810, Encl (2), para. 6.b.



## RFI # 5h Cont. Intimate Partners Violence and Domestic Abuse

---

**RFI #5h Cont.** What efforts are being undertaken to ensure no dangerous weapons are in a household where both the abuser and victim reside?

### **Response Cont.**

- However, the removal of firearms from the household is only one countermeasure. Others include the following:
  - A civilian abuser of a military victim can be barred from base. DoDI 6400.6, para. 3.5.c.(9)(a).
  - A military abuser can be directed to reside in the barracks until the case is resolved. DoDI 6400.6, para. 3.5.c.(4).
  - Military authorities can coordinate with civilian law enforcement about civilian abusers. DoDI 6400.6, para. 3.5.c.(9)(b)-(d).
- Draft MCO 5580.6, Encl (2), para. 2.c.(3), contains similar language. See also 18 U.S.C. § 922; DoDI 6400.6, para. 9.2.



## RFI # 5i Intimate Partners Violence and Domestic Abuse

---

**RFI #5i.** Identify policies in place and resources available which provide immediate assistance and safe housing for military abuse victims.

### **Response**

- Not currently addressed in policy.