



# Department of Defense INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND DOMESTIC ABUSE

*Military Community Advocacy*

**Briefing to the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services**

**June 25, 2024**

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





# Purpose

- Response to Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS) Request for Information (RFI), June 2024 Quarterly Meeting
- Section 6: Intimate Partner Violence and Domestic Abuse



# RFI 6a

**Provide findings and analysis of the 2023 RAND survey on the *Strengths and Challenges of Military Relationships* sent to 200,000 Service members. In addition, provide a link to the final report.**



# Analysis of the 2023 RAND Survey on the Strengths and Challenges of Military Relationships

- In response to Section 549C of the Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), RAND National Defense Research Institute (NDRI) is completing research on the risk of domestic abuse:
  - at different points of the military career life-cycle;
  - best practices for reaching those at highest risk for DA;
  - strategies to prevent DA by training and educating the breadth of the coordinated community response;
  - the military justice system response;
  - and the impacts of DA on military housing, children’s education, and the health/mental health of military members and families.
- the study is being conducted in three phases, one of which is complete and can be viewed at: [https://www.rand.org/pubs/research\\_reports/RRA1550-1.html](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RRA1550-1.html)
- RAND is currently in phase II of the study, which addressed the **survey on the *Strengths and Challenges of Military Relationships* sent to 200,000 Service members**
  - In April 2023, RAND recruited for “task 1 – Survey” participants to voluntarily complete an online survey.
  - RAND continues to work towards completion of phase II of the independent study
- Anticipated completion date: June 2025



## RFI 6b

- **How do you measure the effectiveness of current DoD and Service policies in identifying and reducing the incidence of DA/IPV?**
- **What metrics are used to evaluate programs /policies effectiveness? Provide findings and analysis of metrics/measures used from FY18-23.**
- **What areas/programs have been identified as needing improvement and what actions are being taken to address identified deficiencies?**



# Evaluation of Programs and Policy

## Military Community Advocacy Site Visits

- The MCA has prioritized a systematic review of its existing policies and procedures, to help inform where there might be opportunities for update to policy, program improvements, and bridging gaps.
  - The objective is to pinpoint opportunities for improvement, identify current gaps, and streamline procedures.
  - MCA site visits will continue to complement and reinforce other ongoing work, such as progress on recommendations in the Government Accountability Office (GAO-21-289), by observing the collaboration among key stakeholders who are delivering services for domestic abuse and child abuse and neglect to Service members and their families.
- Monitor and report quarterly on the implementation of MCA policies over the past three years, providing recommendations for mitigation or improvement strategies.

## Effectiveness Metric (Success of Domestic Abuser Treatment)

- Proportion of spouses/partners who completed FAP clinical treatment in the previous year and did not have a met criteria incident of domestic abuse in the next 12 months.

FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
93.82%	94.96%	96.53%	95.76%	93.15%



# Evaluation of Programs and Policy (Cont.)

## **Coordinated Community Response (CCR)**

- The Department has been engaged in robust efforts, supported by a CCR Executive Steering Committee of senior leaders from across the CCR components and Military Departments (establishment memo attached), to address improvement efforts through a logic model (attached) aimed at reducing and eventually eliminating domestic abuse fatalities.
- The Department has entered 5-year contract with the National Organization of Victim Advocacy, nationally renowned for its expertise in CCR development, to support six focus areas aligned with the CCR logic model.
  - The seminal work of the contract is supporting the Military Community Advocacy CCR office develop and implement a pilot model CCR on four installations beginning in 2025, with process maps, standard operating procedures, training, intensive guidance, and technical assistance.
  - The contract contains an evaluation component which will analyze the effectiveness of the pilot, support iterative adjustments, and provide outcomes that will ultimately inform comprehensive policy reform to support a strengthened, more efficient response system.



## RFI 6c

**Regarding the assessment of domestic abuse “reports” as meeting DA/IPV DoD criteria or not:**

- i. Describe the kind of monitoring, oversight, quality control and trainings that are undertaken to assure Family Advocacy Program (FAP) personnel across all Services are evaluating domestic abuse/violence reports in a standardized and consistent manner and that all domestic abuse allegations are screened in accordance with DoD policy. Describe the methods and frequency of such quality monitoring, training and/or quality control reviews.**
- ii. Specify the areas of concern/deficiencies that have been identified in the “met criteria” evaluation processes.**





# Monitoring, Oversight, Quality Control, and Training

- The Clearinghouse and New York University (NYU) are collaborating to assess the quality of implementation of the Decision Tree Algorithm (DTA) and Incident Determination Committee (IDC) with the following goals:
  - to examine, by Service, variations in met criteria rates (a possible preliminary indicator of deviation from the DTA / IDC instructions);
  - to assess “correct” decision making of sites and Services by comparing IDC decisions to those of “gold standard” master reviewers; and
  - to identify areas of DTA and IDC implementation that are maintaining fidelity and those that are not and need improvement.
- This will inform the development of a quality assurance process, including training and ongoing quality assurance maintenance tools.
- This quality assurance process will enable headquarters staff from each Service to provide support to ensure high-quality use of the DTA and IDC in the field.



# Areas of Concern/Deficiencies

- The Incident Determination Committee (IDC)/Decision Tree Algorithm (DTA) was designed primarily as a data collection exercise. Over time OSD has witnessed the unintended use of an incident status determination (ISD) (“met” or “did not meet” criteria) for other purposes, such as whether to support treatment and services or to justify a position in civil court, as evidenced by the GAO review underway on the use of decision letters by abusers against victims.
- In the past 5 years, several groundbreaking, legislative changes have occurred to positively impact the Department’s coordinated community response, namely the introduction of a punitive article for domestic violence (128b) in the Uniform Code of Military Justice and the establishment of the Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC).
- In alignment with Recommendation #4 from GAO 21-289, the Department is striving to address the unmet Title 10 Section 1562 mandate to establish a database on domestic violence. Such database will include more comprehensive data points on the actions of all entities involved in the response to an incident of abuse than what the IDC process currently generates.
- While the establishment of the IDC/DTA was an essential building block toward an effective coordinated community response in the DoD, prioritizing victim care and safety and addressing abuser accountability requires a necessary evolution of processes that the Department is currently exploring.



## RFI 6d

**Identify the key reasons that domestic and intimate partner “reports” fail to qualify as “met criteria” incidents of domestic abuse/violence, e.g.: was some other kind of abuse reported, do victims recant and withdraw reports, do reports not involve domestic or intimate partners, is there inconsistency across installation Incident Determination Committees (IDCs) and Services in how reports are evaluated and determined to meet or not meet DoD criteria of domestic abuse, etc.**



# Met Criteria Incidents of Domestic Abuse/Violence

## Reasonable Suspicion Definition

- When a referral of alleged domestic abuse or child abuse or neglect is received by FAP, it should be documented as a reported incident if it meets the “reasonable suspicion” standard.
- A referral generally meets reasonable suspicion if the alleged incident:
  - has sufficient information to identify at minimum the victim and describes the incident, and
  - it identifies an act or omission which supports the allegation of or the potential for abuse or neglect.
- If any elements of the standard are indeterminable, FAP accepts the referral as a reported incident and make every attempt to conduct an intake assessment to obtain additional information.
- When a domestic abuse referral meets the reasonable suspicion standard, reporting options (restricted or unrestricted) apply in accordance with DoDI 6400.06.

## Decision Tree Algorithm (DTA)

- The decision tree algorithm is a research informed instrument designed New York University researchers used by the installation FAP Incident Determination Committee (IDC) for reviewing allegations of child abuse/neglect and domestic abuse.
- The DTA helps the IDC apply the details of the case against DoD maltreatment definitions and guides the committee through DoD standardized abuse criteria to make an objective evaluation of whether an act meets DoDs definition of abuse, using specific criteria for each type of abuse.



## RFI 6f

- **In its 2019 report, DACOWITS recommended the Services implement a means for Service members suffering from domestic abuse to access immediate and convenient access to resources and assistance, similar to the DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program and the “Safe Helpline” offered to military sexual assault victims.**
  - **Was this recommendation adopted?**
  - **Please describe whether it has and how it was adopted or what alternative option may have been developed.**



# Safe Helpline Recommendation

- The recommendation to implement a system similar to the DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program and the "Safe Helpline" for Service members suffering from domestic abuse was not adopted.
- DoD relies on the existing policies that requires that the military departments ensure there is a 24/7 response for victims of domestic abuse.
- This is achieved using military and local community resources.
- To avoid duplication of services, the use of national hotlines that are designed to support all victims of intimate partner violence provides continuous support via already available established national resources:
  - National Domestic Violence Hotline offering call 800-799-7233, Text "START" to 88788, Live Chat 24/7 English, Spanish and 140 languages.
  - Pathways to Safety International
  - Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services (ADWAS) to offer TTY Live Video Phone, Instant Messenger Chat and email access to advocates for Deaf and hard of Hearing
  - Military Domestic Abuse Victim Advocate Locator  
<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/resources/tools/domestic-abuse-victim-advocate-locator/>  
NAVY311 Connect to a Chaplain Call, text, email



# Safe Helpline Recommendation

- MCA has coordinated with the National Domestic Violence Hotline on ways to deepen collaboration and promote cultural competency for the military community/military families and victims.
- Explored peer advocacy and training for military spouses as Hotline advocates.
- In December 2023, MCA facilitated six virtual-live training sessions to NDVH advocates. Topics:
  - Reporting abuse and seeking support for survivors with military-affiliated backgrounds
  - Understanding how to report abusive military spouses, seek support within the military system, and address challenges survivors face when seeking assistance
  - Providing information about who survivors can reach out to within the military chain of command for support and assistance, especially in cases where the partner is military-affiliated.
  - Addressing legal matters specific to military-related survivors, such as navigating the military judicial system, custody rights, divorce from military abusers, and accessing appropriate resources.
  - Ensuring confidentiality when seeking support and services from the military and identifying external resources available to military-affiliated survivors.
  - Enhancing understanding of military culture and its impact on domestic violence situations, and recognizing the unique challenges faced by military-affiliated survivors.



# RFI 6g

- **Identify the domestic abuse hotlines used by DoD and the Services and their utilization rates for the last five years. Are they military specific? Or are they a national non-DoD hotline (such as used on Military OneSource)?**
- **Are there translation services available?**
- **Are they staffed 24/7?**
- **Are they available OCONUS/Deployed/Remote locations? If not, what alternative is available?**





# Domestic Abuse Hotline Service

- The Department of Defense refers exclusively to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, which is not military specific.
- Utilization rates on military-connected victims are unreliable, as the hotline does not consistently ask a caller whether they are military connected.
- The Hotline offers call, chat, or text; translation services are available, and they are staffed 24/7/365. The hotline is available to all victims who call regardless of location, but they have limited ability to offer referrals to services outside the United States.
- The Department offers a Domestic Abuse Victim Advocate (DAVA) locator on Military One Source that guides victims to the nearest victim advocate based on installation/location.
- DoD relies on the existing policies that requires that the military departments ensure there is a 24/7 response for victims of domestic abuse. This is achieved using military and local community resources.
- Currently, national non-federal hotlines experience limitations in their response rates and availability due to personnel shortages and funding constraints.



# RFI 6i

- **GAO 21-289 identified that installations did not all have sufficiently comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) for victim services with all relevant civilian agencies:**
  - **Is there a sample MOU provided by DoD/Service regulations? If so, please provide links to samples and the dates they were developed/published.**
  - **What office reviews installation MOUs to assess sufficiency and whether all relevant or necessary civilian agencies have been engaged?**
  - **How have the Services addressed/remedied the identified deficiency?**



# Memorandum of Understanding

- There are no specific sample MOUs provided by DoD FAP specific regulations.
- DoDI 6400.06 provides guidance on establishing an MOU and outline situations where its utilization would be appropriate.
- DoDI 1342.22, Military Family Readiness, which houses the baseline FAP standards for certification/accreditation, does include an item for the Family Advocacy Committee that they “Establish or show efforts to establish Memorandum of Understanding with essential external agencies or resources, (e.g. Child Protective Services, Domestic Violence shelters).”
- Each Military Department is responsible, through the Family Advocacy Committee (FAC) to monitor the implementation of the coordinated community response and risk management plan. Such monitoring includes a review of:
  - The development, signing, and implementation of formal MOUs among military activities and between military activities, civilian authorities, and agencies to address child abuse and domestic abuse.
- MOUs are generally executed at the Installation Command level, and they expire upon change of command, which is on average every 2-3 years.
- MOUs require extensive, often protracted legal sufficiency review by both/all parties; thus by the time an MOU is fully executed, it is often near expiration and the process must start over.

# Memorandum of Understanding



DoDI 4000.19, December 16, 2020

<https://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/>

- The DoD has formalized its approach to MOUs through the implementation of policy outlined in DoDI 4000.19.
- In accordance with the authority in DoD Directive (DoDD) 5135.02, this issuance establishes policy, assigns responsibilities, and provides direction for support agreements.
- This policy delineates the requisite requirements and provides examples of MOUs.
- Each military component within the DoD has the responsibility of ensuring that all MOUs undergo official coordination under the guidance of their respective legal advisors.

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**  
BETWEEN  
THE [FIRST PARTY (AND ACRONYM)]  
AND  
THE [SECOND PARTY (AND ACRONYM)]  
FOR  
[INSERT SUBJECT]  
AGREEMENT NUMBER

This is a memorandum of agreement (MOA) between the [First Party] and the [Second Party] [if the Second Party is a non-governmental entity, include its address]. When referred to collectively, the [First Party] and the [Second Party] are referred to as the "Parties."

1. **BACKGROUND:** [If there is a need to discuss background, do so here. Normally, there is no need to discuss the background or provide justification for the MOA, particularly if between CIGS or DoD Components. Occasionally, however, there is a desire to explain the need for the MOA, particularly when it is not self-evident from the purpose or it is with another federal agency.]

2. **AUTHORITY:** [State the legal authority upon which the negotiable MOA is based, such as the Economy Act, or any other legal or significant authority that authorizes any such actions associated with this MOA. Discuss the authority of the Parties here. If the other Party is another federal agency and issues on stating what it believes to be its own authority, prefix that assertion with "The [Party] asserts the following authority." The DoD has no obligation to agree with such assertions of authority by other federal agencies.]

3. **PURPOSE AND SCOPE:** [State the purpose and the scope of the MOA here. Always use this paragraph.]

4. **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES:**

4.1. The [First Party] will—

4.1.1. [insert as many responsibilities as necessary but ensure all the specific requirements of the Party are listed]

4.2. The [Second Party] will—

4.2.1. [insert as many responsibilities as necessary but ensure all the specific obligations of the Party are listed]

SECTION 5: EXAMPLES OF AGREEMENTS 15

DoDI 4000.19, December 16, 2020

Figure 1. Example of an MOA, Continued

4.3. Both Parties will—

4.3.1. [insert as many responsibilities as necessary but ensure that they apply to both Parties]

5. **FINANCIALS:** [Explain each Party's responsibility for all costs of its personnel, including pay and benefits, support, and travel, if applicable to the agreement. Each Party is responsible for supervision and management of its personnel. For shared supervision or management, explain the process to accomplish that.]

6. **GENERAL PROVISIONS:**

6.1. **POINTS OF CONTACT (POCs):** The following POCs will be used by the Parties to communicate matters concerning this MOA. Each Party may change its POC upon reasonable notice to the other Party.

6.1.1. For the [First Party]—

6.1.1.1. Name, position, office identification, phone number and email of primary POC.

6.1.1.2. Position, office identification, phone number and email of alternate POC.

6.1.2. For the [Second Party]—

6.1.2.1. Position, office identification, phone number and email of primary POC.

6.1.2.2. Position, office identification, phone number and email of alternate POC.

6.2. **CORRESPONDENCE:** All correspondence to be sent and notices to be given pursuant to this MOA will be addressed, if to the [First Party], to—

6.2.1. [insert mailing address]

and, if to the [Second Party], to—

6.2.2. [insert mailing address]

or as may from time to time otherwise be directed by the Parties.

6.3. **REVIEW OF AGREEMENT:** If non-negotiable, this MOA will be reviewed no less often than this point on or around the anniversary of its effective date in its entirety. If negotiable, this MOA will be reviewed on or around the anniversary of its effective date annually for financial impact; if there are substantial changes in resource requirements, the agreement will be reviewed in its entirety.

6.4. **MODIFICATION OF AGREEMENT:** This MOA may only be modified by the written agreement of the Parties, duly signed by their authorized representatives.



# RFI 6j

**MCIO and Military Services: The 2019, DoD Inspector General (2019-075) report identified that “military service law enforcement organizations did not consistently comply with DoD policies when responding to adult nonsexual incidents of domestic violence” specifically in the areas of crime scene processing, interview thoroughness, FAP notification failures, and submission of criminal history data to the required databases.**

- i. What actions have been taken to improve law enforcement response to domestic violence reports and to improve the quality and sufficiency of domestic violence investigations.**
- ii. What kind of monitoring and/or quality review is undertaken, and at what Service level, to assess whether law enforcement responses to domestic violence and related investigations are sufficient and proper investigative techniques and processes employed?**



# DoD Principal Staff Assistant for Law Enforcement

- DoD appointed the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security as the Principal Staff Assistant for Law Enforcement.
- Law Enforcement Directorate provides oversight of DoD Investigative and Police programs on behalf of the PSA.
- DoD is conducting a comprehensive review of domestic violence response across the department.
- DoD is assessing current training and response protocols for compliance with current DoD standards and insure that the current standards are sufficient.
- DoD is working to identify key trends, warning/signs indicators, and intervention points to assist in updating law enforcement training and response protocols.



# RFI 6k

- **The written responses provided in March 2024 (fatality reports) provided data in differing forms that the Committee needs to reconcile to ensure accuracy and gain better understanding. Provide the number of domestic violence fatalities, by Service, and for the whole Defense Department, from FY12-FY23.**
- **From FY12-23, break out the number of fatalities by (1) homicide, suicide and undetermined/accidental, (2) gender, (3) whether the deceased was the offender or victim, (4) Service/civilian status of deceased and offender, and (5) whether it was a DA or IPV incident.**
- **What number and percentage of fatalities resulted from the use of a gun?**



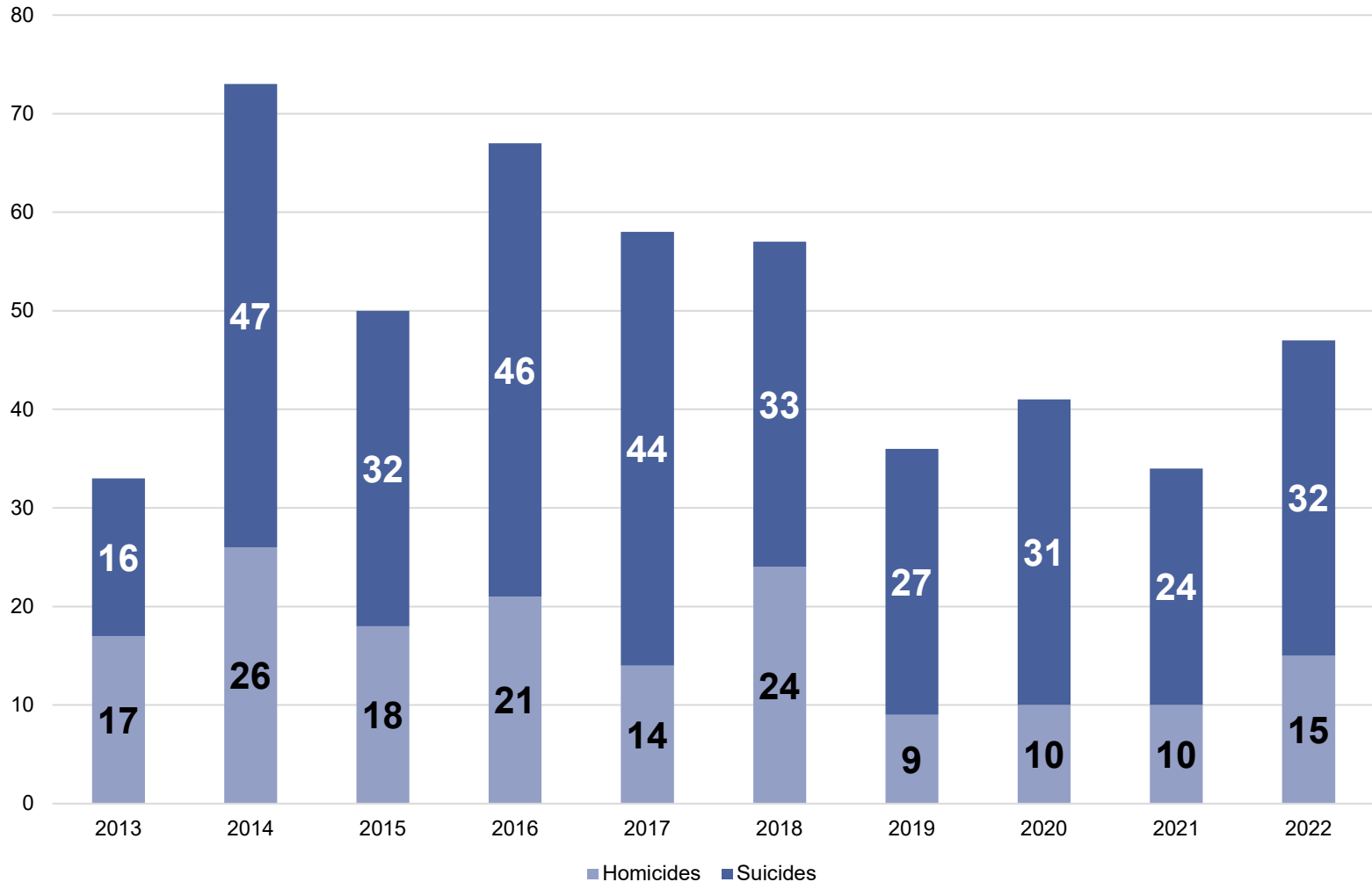
# DoD - Fatality Reports

- Data reflects the year in which fatalities were reviewed and not necessarily the year in which they occurred.
- Fatality reviews are thorough assessments of the systemic actions taken in the deceased's life, carried out once law enforcement investigations, autopsies, and court trials have concluded.
- The CCR team in connection with NOVA partners are researching ways to revise the Fatality Review Board and Summit process, through efforts aimed at following civilian best practices, promoting information sharing and consistent review processes, and facilitating the identification and implementation of recommendations made at Military Department Fatality Review Boards and presented at the Annual DoD Fatality Review Summit.
- The DoD reviews on average 50 domestic violence related fatalities per year; roughly two thirds of those fatalities are suicides, which warrants close collaboration with our partners in the Defense Suicide Prevention Office.





# DV Homicides and Suicides (FY 2013-FY 2022)



Note: Fiscal Year represents year of Service-level Review.



# DV Fatalities Breakdown

	Fiscal Year of Service Review									
	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
<b>DV Homicides</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>
<i>% Firearm Related</i>	53%	65%	72%	52%	72%	83%	89%	80%	50%	73%
<b>Victim Profile</b>										
- Females						12	8	6	9	10
- Males						12	1	4	1	5
- Service members							1	4	6	11
- Civilians							8	6	4	4
<b>Offender Profile</b>										
- Females	9	3	2	5	3	3	0	1	0	5
- Males	8	23	19	14	11	22	9	9	8	10
- Service members	8	17	14	14	8	15	9	6	6	9
- Civilians	9	9	7	5	6	10	0	4	2	6
<b>DV-related Suicides</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>32</b>
<i>% Firearm Related</i>	81%	73%	72%	82%	72%	67%	89%	77%	63%	72%
<b>Decedent Profile</b>										
- Females	4	5	4	7	4	5	4	3	2	7
- Males	12	42	28	39	40	28	23	28	22	25
- Service members	10	44	28	40	40	29	24	31	21	20
- Civilians	6	3	4	6	4	4	3	0	3	12



# Discussion and Questions



# BACK-UP SLIDES



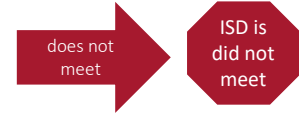
# Decision Tree Algorithm

# INTIMATE PARTNER PHYSICAL ABUSE

## A. ACT

The non-accidental use of physical force against a spouse or IP. Physical force includes, but is not limited to at least one of the following: hitting with an open hand or slapping, including spanking; dropping; pushing or shoving; grabbing or yanking limbs or body; poking; hair-pulling; scratching; pinching; restraining or squeezing; shaking; throwing; biting; kicking; hitting with fist; hitting with a stick, strap, or other object; scalding or burning; poisoning; stabbing; applying force to throat; strangling or cutting off air supply; holding under water; brandishing or using a weapon.

meets



## B. IMPACT Significant impact on the partner involving any of the following:

Any physical injury including, but not limited to, pain that lasts at least four hours, a bruise, a cut, a sprain, a broken bone, loss of consciousness, death.

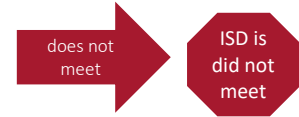
or

Reasonable potential for more than inconsequential physical injury given: the inherent dangerousness of the act, the degree of force used, the physical environment in which the act(s) occurred.

or

More than inconsequential fear reaction

meets



## C. EXCLUSIONS FROM PART A CRITERIA

Note: Any non-accidental use of physical force that meets any of the following situations must not be considered to meet the criteria for Part A. These exclusions do not include subsequent non-accidental use of physical force against the spouse or intimate partner that was not protective. Exclusions are an act committed:

**Excl 1.** To protect alleged abuser from imminent physical harm from the IP who was in the act of using physical force:

The act occurred while the IP was in the act of using physical force. "In the act" begins with the initiation of motoric behavior that typically would result in an act of physical force such as charging at the alleged abuser to hit him or her and ends when the use of force is no longer imminent.

and

The sole function of act was to stop the spouse or IP's use of physical force.

and

The act used only that force that was minimally sufficient to stop the IP's use of physical force.



**Excl 2.** To protect alleged abuser from imminent physical harm given a threat (history of alleged abuser as victim):

The act followed the IP's verbal or nonverbal threat to imminently inflict more than inconsequential physical injury on the alleged abuser.

and

The IDC determines that there was at least one previous incident of the IP inflicting more than inconsequential physical injury on the alleged abuser.



**Excl 3.** To protect IP or another person from imminent physical harm:

An act committed to protect the spouse or IP or another person from imminent physical harm including, but not limited to, grabbing or pushing the IP to prevent him or her from being hit by a vehicle, taking a weapon away from a suicidal IP, stopping the IP from inflicting physical abuse on a child.



**Excl 4.** During physical play with IP:

Act(s) committed during physical play with the IP including, but not limited to, horseplay, wrestling, tackle football.

no exclusions apply



INCIDENT STATUS DETERMINATION (ISD) MUST BE MEETS CRITERIA



## INTIMATE PARTNER EMOTIONAL ABUSE

### A. ACT

A non-accidental act or acts, excluding physical or sexual abuse, or threat adversely affecting the psychological well-being of a current or former intimate partner (IP). Includes but is not limited to one or more of the following: Interrogating the IP; berating, disparaging, or humiliating the IP or using other similar behavior against the IP;

isolating the IP from his or her family, friends, or social support resources;  
interfering with the IP's adaptation to American culture or the military subculture;  
restricting the IP's access to or use of economic resources despite an obviously grave economic situation, when such restriction does not reasonably obstruct the IP from recklessly incurring debts for which the alleged abuser would be responsible for repayment;  
restricting the IP's access to or use of appropriate military services and benefits, including, but not limited to, taking away the IP's military identification card;  
obstructing the IP from obtaining medical, mental health, or dental

services;  
restricting the IP's ability to come and go freely when such restriction is not intended to prevent the IP from committing (a) an act or acts injurious to the IP, or (b) an act or acts that may injure another person; trying to make IP believe that he or she is mentally ill, and/or trying to make others think that the IP is mentally ill;  
threatening to harm the IP directly or indirectly including, but not limited to, threatening to: 1- inflict physical abuse or sexual abuse on the IP, 2 - harm the IP's children, pets, or people that the IP cares about, or 3 - damage or destroy the IP's property; harming the IP's children, pets, or property; stalking the IP;  
obstructing the IP's access to protective assistance, including, but not limited to assistance from: A military domestic violence victim advocate or the Family Advocacy Program, the military command, a military or civilian law enforcement agency, an attorney, a civilian court of competent jurisdiction, or a civilian domestic violence program of shelter, support, or other assistance.



### B. IMPACT Significant impact on the partner involving psychological harm, including any of the following:

More than inconsequential fear reaction

or

Significant psychological distress related to the act, including one or more psychiatric disorders at or near diagnostic thresholds as defined by the latest edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical manual of Mental Disorders

or

Fear of an emotionally abusive act(s) that significantly interfere(s) with the IP's ability to carry out any of five major life activities: employment; education; religious faith; obtaining necessary medical or mental health services or following prescribed treatment or contact with family or friends.

or

Stress-related somatic symptoms related to or exacerbated by the act or pattern of acts that significantly interfere with normal functioning, including aches and pains, migraines, gastrointestinal problems, or other stress-related physical ailments.



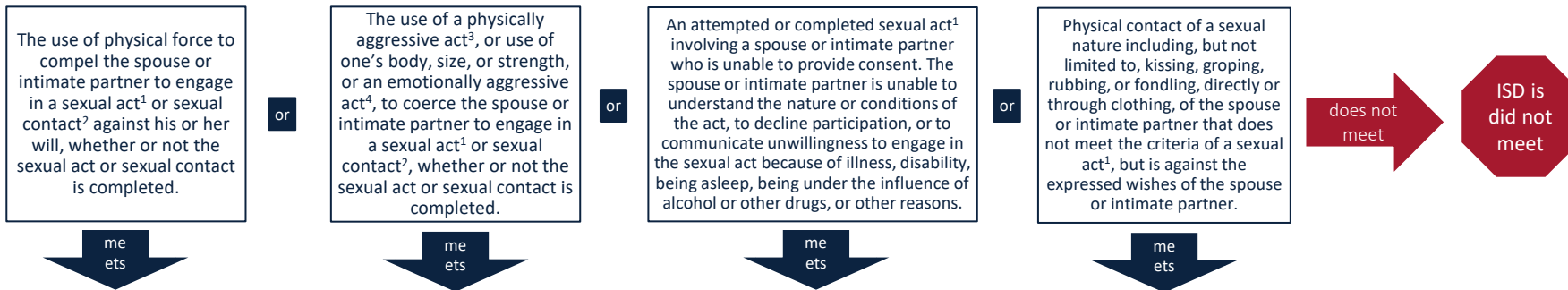
THERE ARE NO EXCLUSIONS FROM ANY ACT OF IP EMOTIONAL ABUSE. IF ACT AND IMPACT MEET CRITERIA INCIDENT STATUS DETERMINATION (ISD) MUST BE MEETS CRITERIA



## INTIMATE PARTNER SEXUAL ABUSE

Corroboration of the report of the spouse or intimate partner is not required to meet the act criteria for spouse or intimate partner sexual abuse.

### A. ACT



ANY ACT THAT MEETS THE CRITERIA FOR ACT FOR IP SEXUAL ABUSE MUST BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE INTIMATE PARTNER.  
THERE ARE NO EXCLUSIONS FROM ANY ACT OF INTIMATE SEXUAL ABUSE. IF ACT MET CRITERIA  
INCIDENT STATUS DETERMINATION (ISD) MUST MEET CRITERIA

<sup>1</sup>**Sexual Act:** contact between the penis and the vulva, anus, or mouth; or the penetration, however slight, of the vulva, anus, or mouth with any part of the offender's body or by the offender's use of any object; or masturbation by self or partner.

<sup>2</sup>**Sexual Contact:** The intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh or buttocks, of another person, or intentionally causing another person to touch, either directly or through the clothing, the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh or buttocks, of any person with an intent to abuse, humiliate, harass, degrade, or arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person.

<sup>3</sup>**Physically aggressive act:** the non-accidental use of physical force against a spouse or IP. Physical force includes, but is not limited to at least one of the following: hitting with an open hand or slapping, including spanking; dropping; pushing or shoving; grabbing or yanking limbs or body; poking; hair-pulling; scratching; pinching; restraining or squeezing; shaking; throwing; biting; kicking; hitting with fist; hitting with a stick, strap, or other object; scalding or burning; poisoning; stabbing; applying force to throat; strangling or cutting off air supply; holding under water; brandishing or using a weapon.

<sup>4</sup>**Emotionally aggressive act:** A non-accidental act or acts, excluding physical or sexual abuse, or threat adversely affecting the psychological well-being of a current or former intimate partner (IP). Includes but is not limited to one or more of the following: Interrogating the IP; berating, disparaging, or humiliating the IP or using other similar behavior against the IP; isolating the IP from his or her family, friends, or social support resources; interfering with the IP's adaptation to American culture or the military subculture; restricting the IP's access to or use of economic resources despite an obviously grave economic situation, when such restriction does not reasonably obstruct the IP from recklessly incurring debts for which the alleged abuser would be responsible for repayment; restricting the IP's access to or use of appropriate military services and benefits, including, but not limited to, taking away the IP's military identification card; obstructing the IP from obtaining medical, mental health, or dental services; restricting the IP's ability to come and go freely when such restriction is not intended to prevent the IP from committing (a) an act or acts injurious to the IP, or (b) an act or acts that may injure another person; trying to make IP believe that he or she is mentally ill, and/or trying to make others think that the IP is mentally ill; threatening to harm the IP directly or indirectly including, but not limited to, threatening to: 1- inflict physical abuse or sexual abuse on the IP, 2 - harm the IP's children, pets, or people that the IP cares about, or 3 - damage or destroy the IP's property; harming the IP's children, pets, or property; stalking the IP; obstructing the IP's access to protective assistance, including, but not limited to assistance from: A military domestic violence victim advocate or the Family Advocacy Program, the military command, a military or civilian law enforcement agency, an attorney, a civilian court of competent jurisdiction, or a civilian domestic violence program of shelter, support, or other assistance.





## NEGLECT OF SPOUSE

### A. ACT

A type of domestic abuse in which the alleged abuser withholds necessary care or assistance for his or her current spouse who is incapable of self-care physically, psychologically, or culturally, although the caregiver is financially able to do so or has been offered other means to do so.

The IDC must determine that **all** of the following conditions are present:

The alleged abuser withholds, or threatens to withhold the spouse's access to, any of the following:

1. Appropriate, medically indicated health care, including, but not limited to, appropriate medical, mental health, or dental care;
2. Appropriate nourishment, shelter, clothing, or hygiene; or
3. Caregiving for more than 24 hours without having arranged for an appropriate surrogate caregiver.

and

The alleged abuser is able to provide care, or access to care, (specified in the first box) or has been offered assistance to do so.

and

The spouse is incapable of self-care due to substantial limitations in one or more of the following areas:

1. Physical, including, but not limited to, quadriplegia;
2. Psychological or intellectual, including, but not limited to, vegetative depression, very low intelligence, or psychosis; or
3. Cultural, including, but not limited to, the inability to communicate in English or the inability to manage activities of rudimentary daily living in American culture.

does not meet

ISD is did not meet



### B. IMPACT

Deprivation-related significant impact involves either of the following:

More than inconsequential physical injury,

or

Reasonable potential for more than inconsequential physical injury, given:

1. The reason(s) why the spouse is incapable of self-care.
2. The care required for the spouse's condition(s).
3. The more-than-inconsequential injury that the spouse could suffer if appropriate access to care is withheld.



ISD is did not meet



THERE ARE NO EXCLUSIONS FROM ANY ACT OF SPOUSE NEGLECT. IF ACT AND IMPACT MEET CRITERIA INCIDENT STATUS DETERMINATION (ISD) MUST BE MEETS CRITERIA



# Logic Model

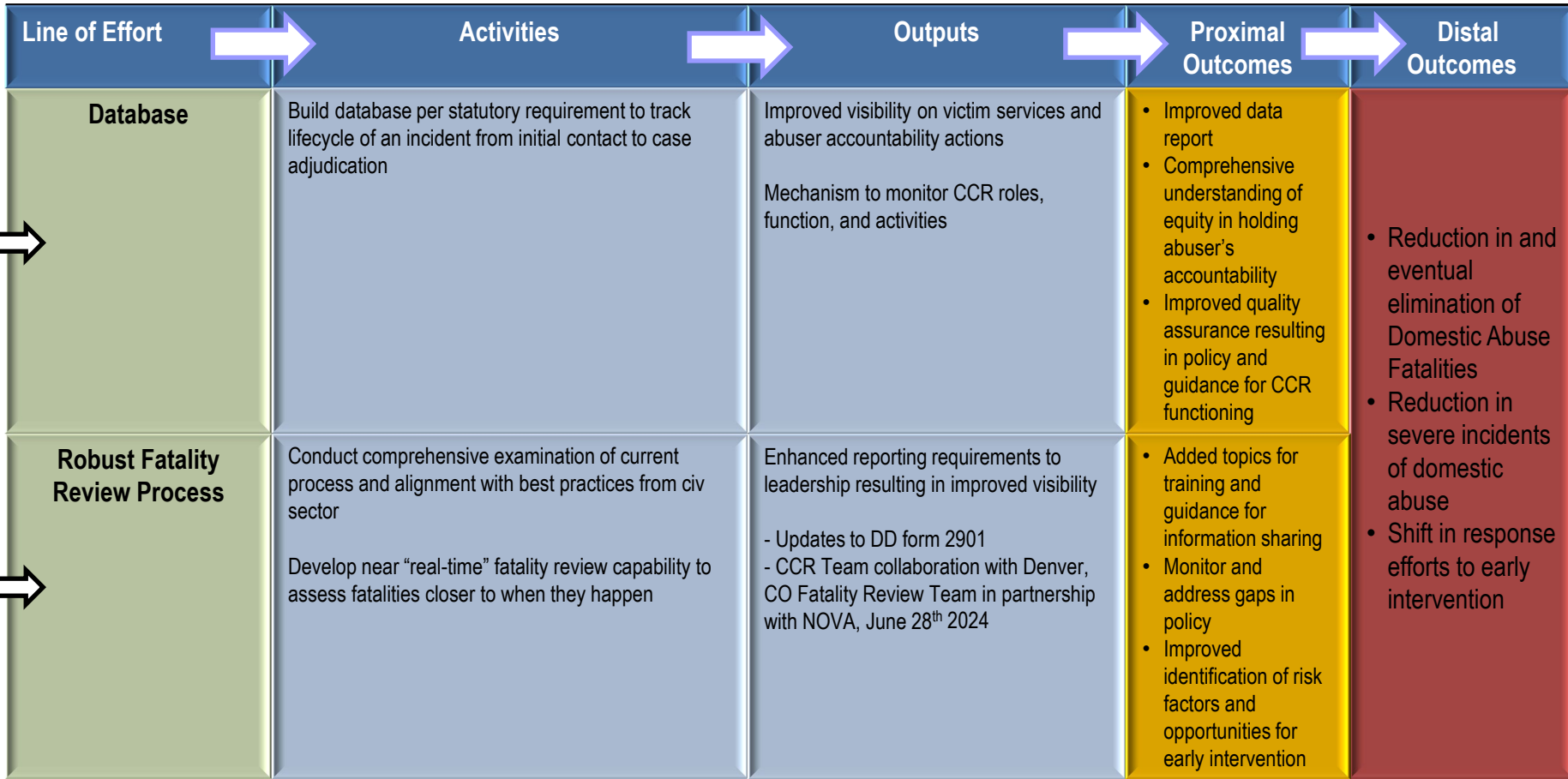
## Robust CCR Governance Function

Line of Effort	Activities	Outputs	Proximal Outcomes	Distal Outcomes
<b>Training</b>	Comprehensively review and standardize training to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Commanders and SELs</li> <li>b) CCR components (i.e. Law Enforcement, FAP, Legal, Medical, Chaplains)</li> <li>c) SMs and families</li> </ul> Evaluate professional development opportunities across the CCR and other helping organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cohesive, institutionalized training at all levels</li> <li>- Expanded professional development opportunities for CCR staff members to build effective skills</li> <li>- Technology Evidence in Domestic Abuse course input</li> <li>- LE First Responder Training</li> <li>- NOVA_DAVA Training and Certification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback from stakeholders on feelings of efficacy in responding to domestic abuse</li> <li>• Victim retention (FAP, law enforcement, legal)</li> <li>• Staff retention</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in and eventual elimination of Domestic Abuse Fatalities</li> <li>• Reduction in severe incidents of domestic abuse</li> <li>• Shift in response efforts to early intervention</li> </ul>
<b>Risk and Lethality Assessment</b>	Work with experts to identify risk and lethality assessment tools for use by CCR entities (FAP, Medical, LE)  Issue policy and guidance on risk communication across the CCR to improve response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional touch points to identify risk and lethality indicators</li> <li>- Improved information sharing and communication across the CCR to facilitate response actions</li> <li>- National Organization for Victims Assistance research for standardizing Risk and Lethality Tools</li> <li>- Nova_CCR Pilot</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victim retention and enhanced trust (FAP, law enforcement, legal)</li> <li>• Use of early intervention/prevention opportunities (to include abuser self-ID for treatment)</li> </ul>	
<b>Information Sharing and Strategic Communications</b>	Enhance communications to military community/education for family members  Collaborate with professional organizations, grantees, non-profits to develop innovative outreach efforts with civ CCR members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Established drumbeat of effective, sustained communications across community</li> <li>- Memoranda of Understanding where necessary with local/civilian authorities</li> <li>- Clear, accessible pathways for two-way communications across the gate</li> <li>- NOVA_CCR Pilot</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful pilot of integrated civ/mil CCRs</li> <li>• Increased opportunities for early intervention</li> <li>• Successful treatment completion</li> </ul>	



# Logic Model

**Robust CCR Governance Function**





PERSONNEL AND  
READINESS

**UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE**  
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

**FEB 23 2022**

**MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP**  
**DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS**

**SUBJECT: Establishment of Coordinated Community Response Executive Steering Committee on Domestic Abuse**

As directed by the Deputy Secretary of Defense during the December 8, 2021 Deputy's Workforce Council (DWC) on Domestic Abuse, I am formally announcing the establishment of the Department of Defense Coordinated Community Response Executive Steering Committee (CCR ESC) on Domestic Abuse. The establishment of the committee follows consensus by all senior leadership present at the DWC. The CCR model, created in the civilian sector, is central to the DoD strategy for addressing the complex nature of domestic abuse. Within the Department, this comprehensive model leverages the expertise of the Family Advocacy Program, along with the Service member's command, medical, military law enforcement, legal, and other key agency representatives. This framework was created to prevent, identify, and respond to family violence, specifically, domestic abuse. Each Component of the CCR plays a role in the safety and welfare of Service members and families as well as intimate partners.

As discussed at the December 8, 2021 DWC, the Department has lacked a sustained coordinating function to organize the engagement of all Components across the lifecycle of a domestic abuse incident. The CCR ESC will serve this coordinating function. The first action will be a focus on aligning policy to those with the authority to implement and examining and improving the Department's prevention of, and response to, domestic abuse. The Steering Committee's initial areas of focus will include:

- New Aligned Policy Informed by DoD Instruction 6400.06;
- Standardization of memoranda of understanding with Civilian Victim Service Organizations;
- Transitional Compensation and Victim Support;
- Civilian Protection Order Policy Development;
- Data Collection; and
- Military Justice Reforms' Impact on CCR.

An action officer subcommittee at the GS-15/O-6 level, led by the Director, Military Community Advocacy Directorate, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy (DASD(MC&FP)), will meet monthly beginning on February 24, 2022, and the steering committee consisting of one-star or equivalent senior

leaders, led by the DASD(MC&FP), will convene quarterly beginning in April 2022 to evaluate progress and provide updates, as appropriate, to the Deputy Secretary of Defense via the Workforce Management Group and DWC. At the Steering Committee's initial meeting, the focus will be on needed Office of the Secretary of Defense-level policy development. In addition to designated offices under the DASD(MC&FP), the initial membership of the ESC and corresponding subcommittee will consist of action officers/one-star or equivalent leaders from the following offices:

- Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, Law Enforcement Division;
- Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, Patient Advocacy & Experience, Women's, Child & Family Health Policy;
- Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Personnel Policy, Transitional Compensation; and
- Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Office of Legal Policy.

The Military Services are integral partners in this effort. The Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs will engage with the Services to identify representatives following the initial convening focused on the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. The ESC is authorized to engage other functional area offices as needed.

Thank you for sharing my steadfast commitment to the well-being of our Service members and families and to ensuring those in the military community feel safe and supported. I look forward to continuing our work together on this critical endeavor.



Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.