

**NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU RESPONSE TO DACOWITS RFI Q9
DOMESTIC ABUSE / DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AFFECTING SERVICEWOMEN (WB&T)**

In 1996, the Committee recommended “*that the Assistant Secretary of the Defense for Force Management Policy expand the information currently being collected on spouse abuse to include all violence against military women (including sexual assault).*” Recently, media headlines have spotlighted multiple servicewomen being affected by domestic abuse and domestic violence. The Committee is concerned about the impacts of these incidences on the safety and welfare of servicewomen as well as on operational readiness. In March 2019, the Committee received an initial briefing on this topic from the Military Services via RFI 11.

The Committee requests a **written response** from the **National Guard** on the following:

- a. Based on available data and reporting, what resources are available to servicewomen to help prevent and address domestic abuse and domestic violence?
- b. What prevention strategies are offered to reduce/prevent incidents of domestic abuse and domestic violence?

RESPONSE

- a. The National Guard does not track domestic violence and domestic abuse incidents with Technicians, M-Day and Traditional Guardsmen beyond the pre-/post-deployment benefit window. Data for all domestic violence and domestic abuse incidents during deployment are managed by the respective Family Advocacy Programs of the parent services - Army for the Army National Guard and the Air Force for the Air National Guard.

National Guard members in active duty status (Title 10 or Title 32) are eligible to receive domestic violence and domestic abuse services through the respective Family Advocacy Programs at local active duty installations, but National Guard members who are in technician, M-Day and traditional drill status are not eligible for these military-sponsored services.

- b. The National Guard does not offer prevention strategies to reduce/prevent incidents of domestic abuse and domestic violence. The Guard is not authorized within policy, nor resourced to provide any domestic abuse and domestic violence programs. Title 32 Technicians, M-Day and Traditional Guard members, beyond the pre-/post-deployment benefit window, who report domestic abuse and domestic violence are referred to community resources by their Command.

Prevention strategies offered to reduce/prevent domestic violence and abuse incidents are managed by the respective Family Advocacy Programs of the parent services and only National Guard members in active duty status (Title 10 or Title 32) are eligible.