

SUBJ: DACOWITS RFI #8 - June QBM

FROM: USCG Family Advocacy Program

TO: DACOWITS Committee

THRU: Office of Diversity & Inclusion (CG-127)

Domestic Abuse / Domestic Violence Affecting Servicewomen

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 Military Services on the following:

DACOWITS:

- a. Provide a copy of the annual report provided to DoD on domestic violence fatality reviews, per DoDI 6400.06, "Domestic Abuse Involving DoD Military and Certain Affiliated Personnel," for the past five years.
- b. Does your Service collect domestic abuse and domestic violence data on current or former intimate partners who have not been married, and do not have children together and with whom the abuser has not or does not share a common domicile (e.g., data on 'dating partners' as provided by the Air Force). If so, please provide the data from 2014-2018.
- c. Provide a list of what prevention programs are in place to preclude domestic abuse and domestic violence, to include but not limited to:
 - i. Training for potential domestic abuse and domestic violence bystanders;
 - ii. Adopting domestic abuse and domestic violence prevention programs from non-military entities like the Center for Disease Control and Prevention; and
 - iii. Partnering with other non-military entities on assessing the effectiveness of domestic abuse and domestic violence prevention programs.
- d. What is being done to encourage servicewomen to report incidents or indicators of domestic abuse and domestic violence?

e. What is being done to ensure servicewomen feel safe reporting incidents of domestic abuse and domestic violence?

f. What actions are being taken to communicate what resources are available from Family Advocacy, including the domestic abuse victim advocates?

CG Response:

a. USCG does not have a FAP fatality review board nor do we provide annual statistic to DoD (DoDI 6400.06 does not apply to USCG). USCG does have an Office of Casualty Matters that tracks all fatalities within the USCG to include DV fatalities. Additionally, CGIS tracks investigations involving DV reports of fatalities where CGIS investigated the case.

b. FAP provides counseling and information and referral to service members with “dating relationship issues” under FAP prevention. Prevention cases are not entered into USCG central registry but are tracked on an excel spread sheet within the Regional Practice Office.

c.

- i. FAP provides annual training in October for Domestic Violence Awareness month, which includes: DV commander and unit training. DV training focuses on building healthy relationships, DV bystander training, as well as the prevention, identification, reporting and treatment of DV and available resources.
- ii and iii. Some USCG Districts partner with non-military entities to provide prevention programs within safe houses, community based DV programs, support groups, and DCF. The effectiveness of these programs is assessed via quality assurance reviews.

d. FAP provides education, training and advertising/marketing of CG resources and reporting options to encourage reporting. Partner with commands, SARC and CGIS to decrease stigma and to provide needed resources.

e. Offer restricted reports, if appropriate, to enable service women receiving treatment and DV services. Decrease the stigma of reporting and seeking services. Encourage commands proactive response to DV to ensure safety, to include issuing MPO, providing shelter on base and participating in the IDC. FAP providing risk assessments, safety planning, safe house, transitional compensation and other available resources to promote safety on and off base. Partnering with CGIS and local law enforcement as needed.

f. FAP DV training for commands, unit, medical providers, law enforcement, chaplains, Work–Life staff, so necessary referral are made to FAP. Additionally, maximizing use of installation electronic advertisement boards, Health Safety and Work-Life apps, FAP website, CG SUPRT, printed material and Leadership Diversity Board.

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