

MARINE CORPS RESPONSE TO DACOWITS RFI #5 (MARCH 2024)
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND DOMESTIC ABUSE

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and Domestic Abuse (DA) remain a public health issue of national concern. Data available from military reporting systems demonstrate that IPV/DA is an equally serious and significant military public health concern. The Committee recognizes DoD is actively working to improve its programs to support victims of IPV/DA, and has acted upon the Committee's 2019 recommendations, but recent Congressional Research Service, GAO and RAND Corporation reports identify additional areas of concern which need improvement in a number of areas, including data collection, prevention strategies, training, law enforcement response, victim services/coverage, community coordination, offender accountability, among others. The Committee requests a **written response** from **the Marine Corps** on the following:

RFI # 5c. Provide copies of the annual fatality reports required by DoDI 6400.06 from FY12-FY22. Provide information (from FY12-FY22) on what action was taken, and the result, against those abusers believed to be criminally responsible for a victim's death? How many fatalities were of undetermined cause?

RESPONSE RFI # 5c: Fatality Review is done at the Department of the Navy level for Marine Corps and Navy. DON Fatality Review Reports include proposed actions as well as updates on actions taken based on previous reviews.

RFI #5d. Provide data regarding participation in the CATCH program outlined in DoDI 6400.06. How long has that program been in effect and how many alleged serial offenders involved in IPV/DA have been identified/entered into the system since inception of that program?

RESPONSE RFI #5d. Marine Corps implemented the CATCH program for FAP in February 2023, there have been 4 requests for CATCH passwords, 1 CATCH entry submitted, and 0 matches.

RFI #5e. Have you conducted any surveys addressing the topic/soliciting information about the incidence of IPA/DA? If so, provide dates and findings of those surveys.

RESPONSE RFI #5e. The Marine Corps has not independently completed surveys related to IPA/DA at this time. However, the Marine Corps is fully supporting and participating in the RAND study in which RAND's research team will conduct 10 virtual interviews with stakeholders at selected installations to identify current practices and barriers to domestic abuse prevention and outreach. The stakeholders RAND plans to invite serve in the Family Advocacy Program (FAP) staff, Chaplains, mental health professionals, suicide prevention, sexual assault prevention, primary integrated prevention workforce, financial and legal advisors, commanders, and other risk reduction program staff.

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RFI #5f. Provide the number of restricted reports received in the years FY12 through FY22, in the same format and with all the same categories reported for unrestricted reports in the December 2023 QBM meeting. If you do not have all that data available, provide as complete a report as possible and identify where you lack specific data fields. At minimum, local installation FAPs should have these numbers even though DoD collects only unrestricted report data. If your Service does not have a complete data set of restricted reports, explain why that data is not collected and what efforts may be underway to collect and analyze it.

RESPONSE RFI # 5f

Fiscal Year	Marine Corps Restricted Reports		
	Spouse Abuse*	Intimate Partner Abuse*	Total
FY 2012	restricted	restricted	225
FY 2013	restricted	restricted	190
FY 2014	restricted	restricted	358
FY 2015	restricted	restricted	327
FY 2016	restricted	restricted	404
FY 2017	restricted	restricted	247
FY 2018	restricted	restricted	228
FY 2019	restricted	restricted	447
FY 2020	restricted	restricted	425
FY 2021	restricted	restricted	306
FY 2022	restricted	restricted	333

Figure: 5f1

Our installation level programs are able to discern relationship types (Spouse/Intimate Partner) in restricted reports. Per *DoDI 6400.06 restricted reports are considered covered communications thus they are not required for collection at the HQ level, nor are they reviewed for analysis.

RFI #5g. Is information regarding restricted reports, types of allegations involved, and the assessed threat level reported to the installation Incident Determination Committee (IDC) (or other group-define) and relevant command authorities (recognizing identifying information is confidential) to assure awareness and enhance outreach/training/other community prevention efforts?

RESPONSE RFI#5g No, information regarding restricted reports is not shared with the Incident Determination Committee or any other group. When a restricted report is made, a risk assessment is conducted to determine the safety of the reporting party. If the individual is assessed to be in imminent danger, the case is staffed with staff judge advocate to determine if the report must be unrestricted to help to ensure the safety of the individual.

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RFI #5h. How many nonjudicial punishment or court-martial actions have been taken against military Service members for:

- i. Violations of UCMJ Article 128B or its previously equivalent predecessor articles for domestic or IPV violence from FY12-FY22; and
- ii. MPO or CPO violations from FY12-FY22?

RESPONSE RFI #5h

Fiscal Year	Marine Corps Command Actions		
	NJP	Courts Martial	Total Actions
FY 2015	22	25	47
FY 2016	43	47	90
FY 2017	43	28	71
FY 2018	35	27	62
FY 2019	36	13	49
FY 2020	37	19	56

Figure: 5h1

The data above are from prior Commander's Action Reports where data regarding actions taken by command were shared with HQMC FAP solely due to MARADMIN 561/14 which established the requirement for Commanders to report actions taken on abusers of adult domestic abuse (severity levels 2&3) and adult sexual abuse effective FY15 the data reported to FAP. The 2018 Defense Authorization Act made domestic violence its own specific crime separate from assault or battery for the first time under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (article 128b). With the creation of article 128b, the reporting of UCMJ offenses has been shifted to our partners in the Judge Advocate Division. The DVICCCA report was not required for FY21 due to changes at MC&FP.

RFI #5i. How many reported abuse/violence incidents have resulted in an imminent danger assessment from FY12-FY22 (as defined in DoDI 6400.06)? Identify by gender the abuser and victim, category of abuse/violence, and whether incident involves intimate partners or spouses.

RESPONSE RFI #5i. The Marine Corps does not currently track this information. All clients are assessed by a clinician and a risk level is determined based upon this assessment. If a restricted report is made to FAP, and the client is assessed to be in imminent danger, the case is staffed at a local level through the SJA to determine if the report must go unrestricted for the client's safety.

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RFI #5j. Although the metrics collected represent only unique victims and abusers, do you have data identifying how many abusers are repeat offenders (i.e., are identified as the abuser in more than one incident)? If so, please provide that data for FY12-FY22 or for as many of those years as possible.

RESPONSE RFI #5j. From FY 2012-FY 2022, there were a total of 8,710 unique abusers involved in met criteria incidents of domestic abuse. Among those 8,710 unique abusers, 921 were involved in a subsequent met criteria incident of domestic abuse during that same time period (Figure: 5j1). Note that for data provided by fiscal year, counts of unique abusers appear in the first year in which re-abuse occurred regardless of the number of subsequent met criteria incidents of domestic abuse in which an abuser was involved. This method ensures that re-abusers are counted only once.

FY2012-FY2022 Unique Domestic Abuse Abusers in Met Criteria Incidents

Marine Corps	Domestic Abuse Abusers	
	Number of Unique Abusers	Number of Unique Abusers Who Re-abused*
	8,710	921

Figure: 5j1

During the same period, the number of unique domestic abusers by fiscal year follows in Figure 5j2:

Marine Corps	Number of Unique Domestic Abuse Abusers by Fiscal Year of Re-Abuse										
	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
	60	68	83	117	105	85	91	64	80	83	85

Figure: 5j2

RFI #5k. What is your Service’s progress on implementing a coordinated community response process IAW DoDI 6400.06? Outline the process, agencies involved, and their respective responsibilities. How often does the group meet and do they undertake analysis of incidents to identify trends, repeat offenders, or other important indicators? Are commanders tasked, and how, to identify actions taken to hold abusers accountable via administrative or disciplinary action when circumstances warrant such actions?

RESPONSE RFI #5k. HQMC is in the process of standing up a Coordinated Community Response. The team will meet quarterly to strengthen partnerships, identify trends, and work to close gaps in services. The committee will be comprised at minimum of representatives from the following entities: Law Enforcement, Legal, Command, Medical, Chaplain, Advocacy, Clinical, and Prevention.

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RFI #51. What are the challenges your Service faces in providing adequate victim services access and coverage, particularly at OCONUS and remote locations? For example, what is the personnel staffing situation in regard to the number of DAVAs, clinical providers and special victims counsel? Are you adequately staffed and funded to provide required victim services access and coverage at military installations? What is the situation at your OCONUS and remote installations?

RESPONSE RFI #51. Each Marine Corps installation is staffed with FAP Advocates (DAVAs). FAP Advocates assist victims of domestic abuse and non-offending parents in child abuse cases. Each installation has a 24/7 hotline number that is manned by advocates, or other FAP staff as needed. Currently, FAP Advocate billets are 64% staffed. It has become a challenge to retain FAP Advocates as new opportunities have become available within the Department of Defense in recent years.

RFI #5m. The most recent change to DoDI 6400.06, para 4.1, enables the Military Departments to implement mandatory training at a frequency determined by the Military Services instead of annually. Provide information on the number, types, and titles of training your Service conducts, the target audiences for each, the training’s frequency, and copies of that training.

RESPONSE RFI #5m. Per Marine Corps Order 1754.11A: Commanders are required to complete training within 90 days of assumption of command and annually thereafter. Senior Enlisted Advisors are required to receive training annually. The training course entitled, “Family Advocacy Program Training for Commanding Officers and Senior Enlisted Advisors” is designed to meet the requirements of DoDI 6400.06, para 4.1. Additionally, each Marine Corps installation FAP provides in-person training to Commanders to provide updates regarding local resources. Additionally, the Marine Corps also provides Unit Marine Awareness and Prevention Training (UMAPIT) training. UMAPIT meets the Marines’ annual training requirements for suicide prevention, domestic abuse, child abuse, and substance misuse as required in several DoD Instructions and Marine Corps Orders. The Marine Corps also has Embedded Public Behavioral Health Capability (EPBHC) providers and Primary Prevention Integrators (PPI) tasked with helping their units meet the training requirements of UMAPIT which in turn meets DoD training requirements. The following figure reflects calendar training for UMAPIT:

CY	UMAPIT	CORE MASTER TRAINER	UMAPIT MASTER TRAINER	UMAPIT TRAINER
CY 24	26,269	0	3	915
CY 23	91,142	1	319	3,801

Figure: 5m1