DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Update

DACOWITS
June 12, 2014

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Deputy Director, DoD SAPRO

DACOWITS RFI

Background: President Obama, in signing the NDAA for FY 2014, which contains several provisions to combat sexual assault, instructed Secretary Hagel and Chairman Dempsey to "continue their efforts to make substantial improvements with respect to sexual assault prevention and response, including to the military justice system," and to report back to him, "with a full-scale review of their progress," by December 1, 2014. He added that if he did not see the kind of progress he expects, "then we will consider additional reforms that may be required…."

RFI: DACOWITS requests a briefing from SAPRO on the benchmarks that DoD intends to use in assessing the effectiveness of both the new NDAA provisions and the progress of DoD generally in making "substantial improvements with respect to sexual assault prevention and response, including to the military justice system" and any updates on the implementation status of the sexual assault provisions of the NDAA for FY 2014.

Agenda

- FY13 Annual Report Results and Statistics
- DoD Sexual Assault Prevention Strategy
- Progress Report to the President
- DoD Equity in the White House Task Force to Protect Students From Sexual Assault

FY13 Annual Report Top Line Results

- Sexual assault reporting increased by 50% overall
  - Unprecedented increase consistent with a growing level of confidence in DoD response system
  - The average annual increase of sexual assault reports has been approximately 5% since the first full year of Restricted Reporting in 2006
  - About 10% of the 5,061 reports of sexual assault received were for sexual assaults that occurred prior to military service (past years' reporting has never exceeded 4%)
- While sexual assault remains an underreported crime, the Department encourages greater reporting
  - Connects victims with care and services
  - Allows opportunity to hold offenders appropriately accountable
- The Department takes action in every case where it has jurisdiction and sufficient evidence to do so
  - FY13: DoD authorities had sufficient evidence to take some kind of disciplinary action on 73% of military subjects (1,569 of 2,149 military subjects)
  - FY12: DoD authorities had sufficient evidence to take some kind of disciplinary action on 66% of military subjects (1124 of 1714 military subjects)
- Next past-year prevalence estimate of unwanted sexual contact due in 2014 WGRA Survey

Report Background and Strategy

- Required by Section 1631 of Public Law 111-383, *Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for FY11*
  - Law requires:
    - Reports of sexual assault made to the Department by and against Service members
    - Dispositions and prosecution outcomes of alleged perpetrators
  - The Department uses the report to also inform Congress of:
    - Oversight actions and progress to improve sexual assault prevention and response (SAPR)
    - Research that further describes the problem of sexual assault
- Structured to align with the lines of effort from the *DoD SAPR Strategic Plan*, released in 2013:
  - Prevention
  - Investigation
  - Accountability
  - Advocacy/Victim Assistance
  - Assessment

SAPR Program Enhancements

Line of Effort 1: Prevention

- **Goal:** Deliver consistent and effective prevention methods and programs
- **Policy Enhancements Included:**
  - A requirement for the DoD SAPRO Director to develop strategic program guidance, joint planning objectives, and standard terminology
  - Updated and standardized core-curricula and learning objectives for all forms of SAPR Training
  - Officer evaluations must now consider efforts to address SAPR in unit climate
- **Program Enhancements Included:**
  - Executed campaign plan to update DoD Prevention Strategy
  - Revised Climate Survey SAPR Items to better assist commanders to address unit climate
  - Conducted a review to ensure consistency in policies prohibiting inappropriate relationships

All SAPR initiatives lay a foundation for the advancement of a culture of sexual assault prevention. Given the complex nature of the problem, coordinated action must take place across all levels of military society.

Line of Effort 2: Investigation

- **Goal:** Achieve high competence in the investigation of sexual assault
- **Policy Enhancements:**
  - Clarification of an existing requirement for all adult sexual assault investigations to be conducted by Military Criminal Investigative Organizations (MCIOs – CID, NCIS, AFOSI)
- **Program Enhancements:**
  - Established a Special Victim Capability for investigation and prosecution
    - Organized capability consisting of investigators, prosecutors, paralegals, victim/witness program professionals, selected, trained, and certified on sexual assault, serious domestic violence and child abuse crimes
  - DoD IG assessed MCIOs:
    - Initial and annual training
    - Investigative sufficiency and compliance
  - Ongoing specialized training on trauma-impacted memory and interviewing

These enhanced capabilities equip DoD's fact finders with the knowledge and skills to conduct investigations that minimize the risk of re-traumatization and support victims' desire to stay engaged in the military justice process.

Line of Effort 3: Accountability

- **Goal:** Achieve high competence in holding offenders appropriately accountable
- **Policy Enhancements:**
  - Updated requirement to provide legal services to victims of sexual assault
  - Re-issued DoD Instruction 1325.07:
    - Updates UCMJ offenses requiring sex offender registration
    - Adds notification requirement to the US Marshals Service Sex Offender Targeting Center
- **Program Enhancements:**
  - Directed development of special victims' advocacy program
    - Supported by overall positive feedback on Air Force Special Victims' Counsel Pilot
  - Supported establishment and data gathering of an independent review and assessment panel (Response System Panel; Section 576, FY13 NDAA)
  - Created a new Defense Sexual Assault Incident Database (DSAID) Case Synopsis Reporting Module to capture final results of cases.
  - Directed Judge Advocates to serve as Article 32 investigating officers

- Special Victims' Counsel programs offer an attorney to Service member victims of sexual assault for representation throughout the military justice process. Full operating capability established in each Service in January 2014.
- The Department of Justice recently recognized the USAF Special Victims' Counsel Program with a National Crime Victims' Rights Service Award.

Line of Effort 4: Advocacy/Victim Assistance

- **Goal:** Deliver consistent and effective victim support, response, and reporting options
- **Policy Enhancements:**
  - Expanded expedited transfers to allow for the movement of either the victim or the subject in Unrestricted Reports of sexual assault
  - Enhanced document retention policy to improve storage and retrieval of DoD forms that support sexual assault victims' disability evaluation or benefits claim
  - Directed Surgeons General of the Military Departments to use Department of Justice standards for forensic examination of victims of sexual assault
  - Executed DoD-wide certification of all personnel serving as SARCs and SAPR VAs
- **Program Enhancements:**
  - Fielded full time equivalent SARCs and VAs in accordance with FY12 NDAA
  - Directed General Counsel to develop language incorporating Crime Victims Rights Act provisions and victim post-trial participation into UCMJ
  - Revised security clearance procedures to de-stigmatize mental health counseling for victims
  - Expanded Safe Helpline Services:
    - Safe Helpline App – helps victims assess/reduce troubling symptoms and contact assistance
    - Safe Help Room – Screened and moderated chat room to help connect survivors all over the world

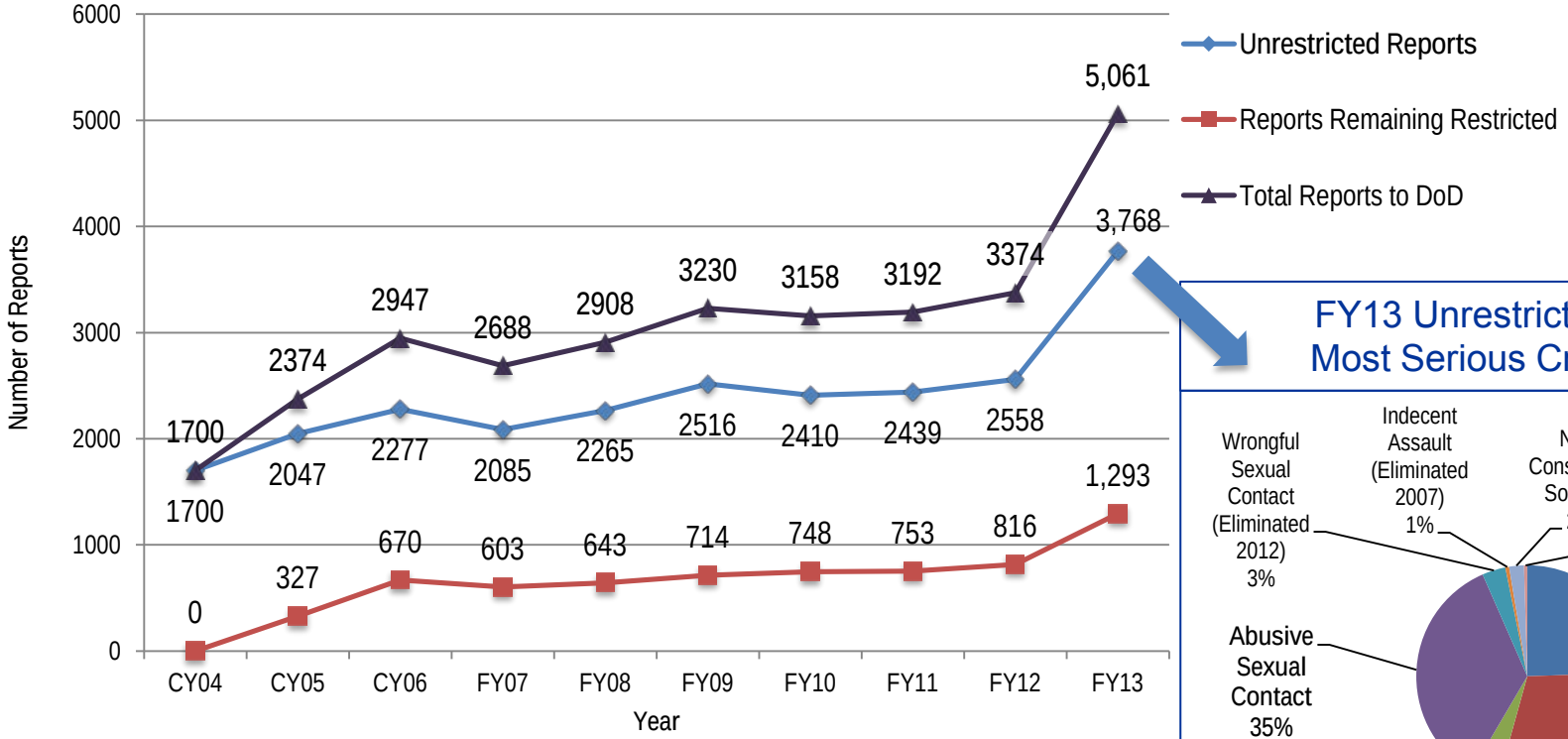
Since its launch in 2011, Safe Helpline has assisted over 22,000 members of the DoD community through its click, call and/or text services. In 2013, the Safe Helpline App won the President's Award for Innovation from the American Telemedicine Association.

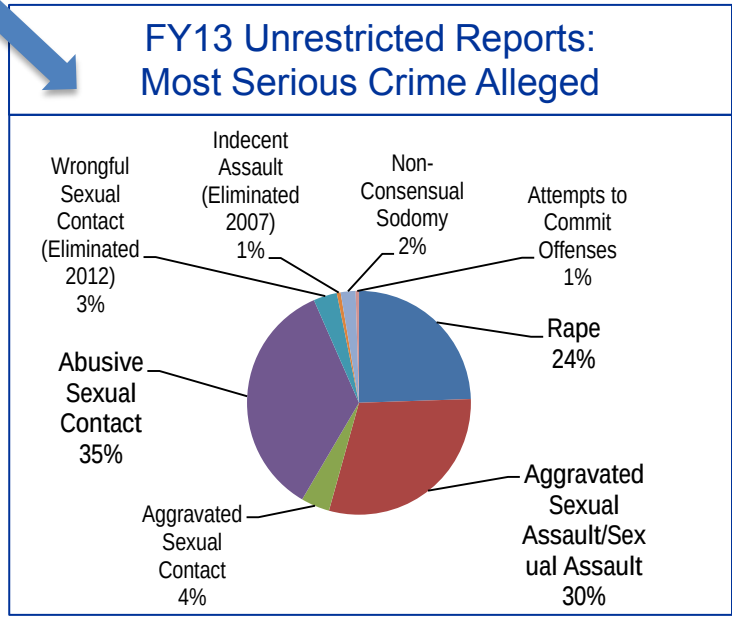
Line of Effort 5: Assessment

- **Goal:** Effectively standardize, measure, analyze, and assess program progress
- **Policy Enhancements:**
  - Implemented FY13 NDAA reporting requirements into DSAID and data collection activities
  - Developed command climate assessment feedback
- **Program Enhancements:**
  - Updated SAPR questions for command climate surveys
  - Developed initial set of SAPR Metrics to capture reporting trends, victim assistance, and investigation data
  - Harmonized survey methodologies across the Department to improve consistency in results and reduce survey fatigue

Each year, the Department integrates data from sexual assault reports, scientifically conducted surveys, and research to provide a fully transparent view of DoD SAPR program progress.

Reports of Sexual Assault: CY04-FY13

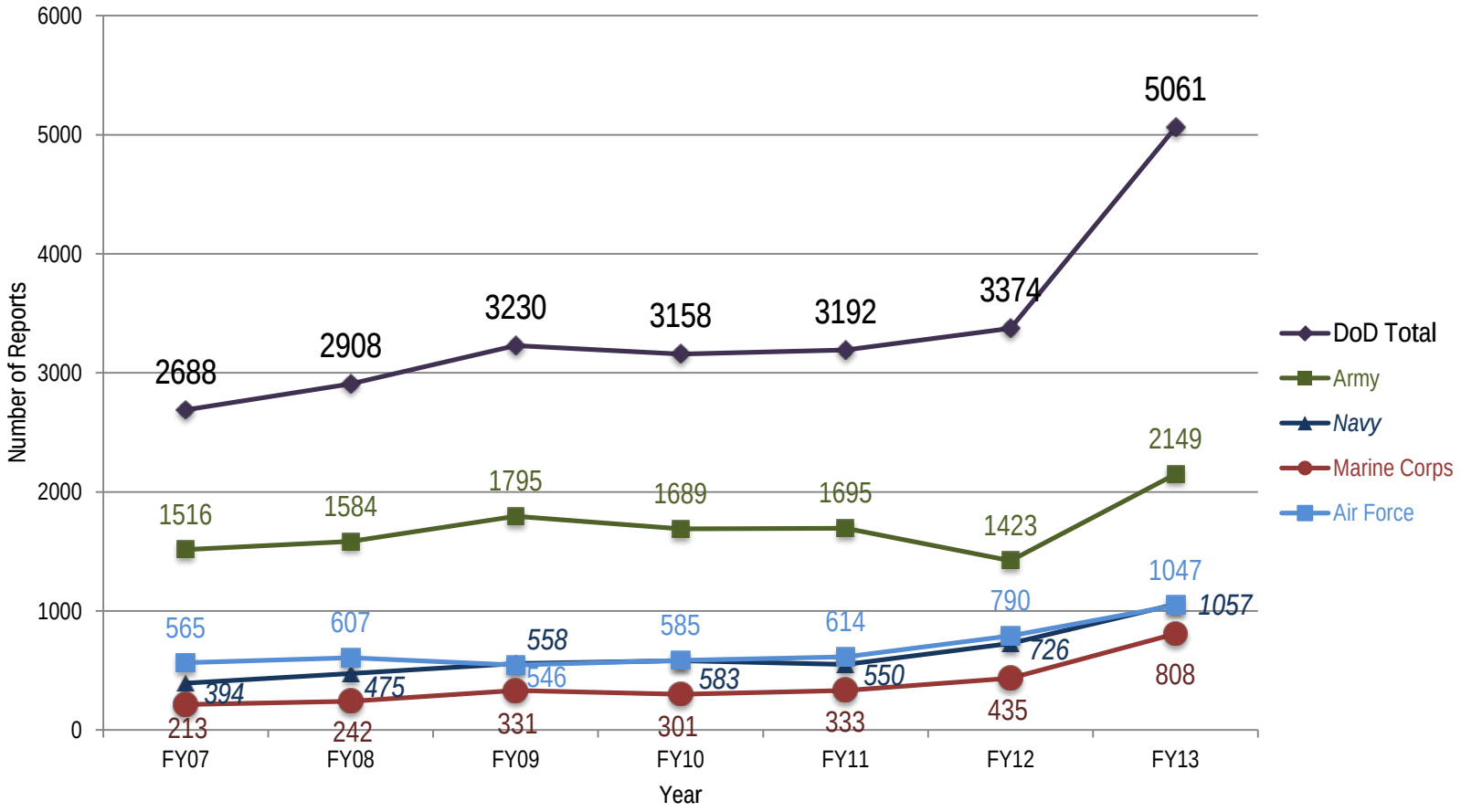




- Overall reporting increased 50% in FY13
  - Unrestricted Reporting increased by 47%
  - Reports remaining Restricted increased by 58%
- 492 reports were for an incident occurring prior to military service
  - Accounted for 10% of FY13 reporting
  - Prior years' pre-service reports never exceeded 4%

- In FY13, 56% of matters investigated by Military Criminal Investigative Organizations involved an initial allegation of a penetrating offense.
- Increased reporting leads to greater opportunities for victim care and accountability.

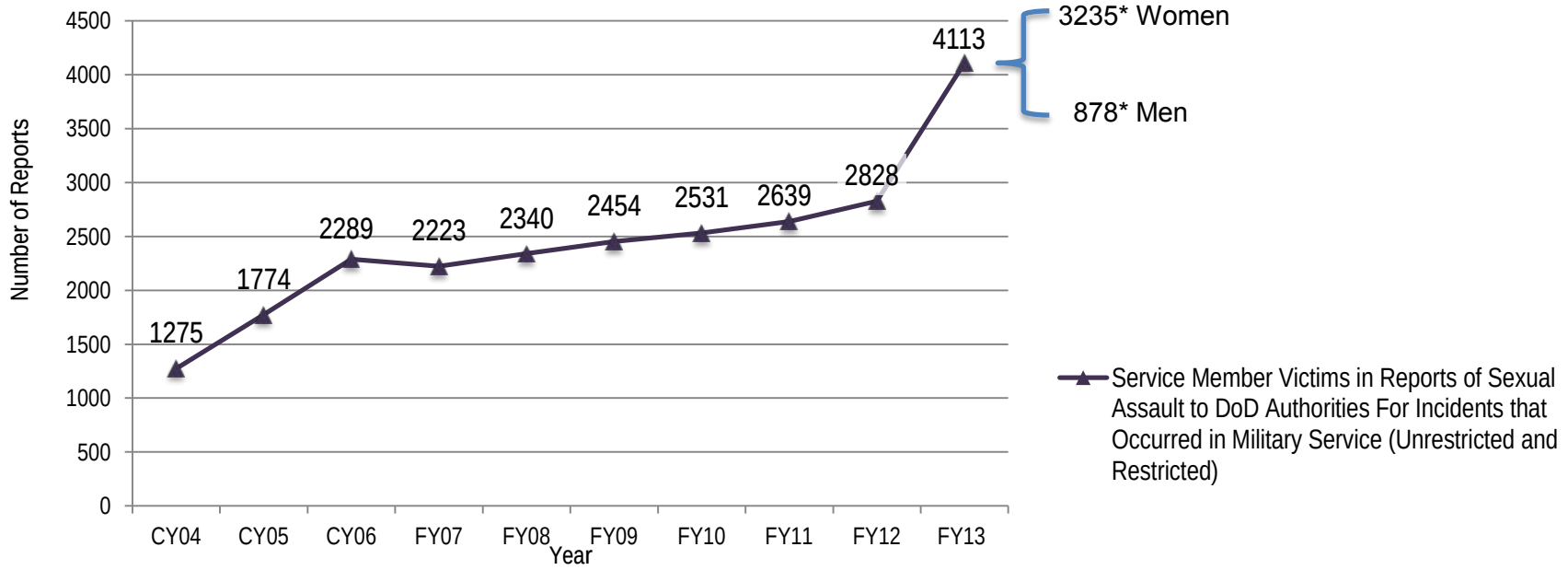
Sexual Assault Reports by Service FY07-13



All four Services showed an increase in sexual assault reporting in FY13.

Service Member Reporting

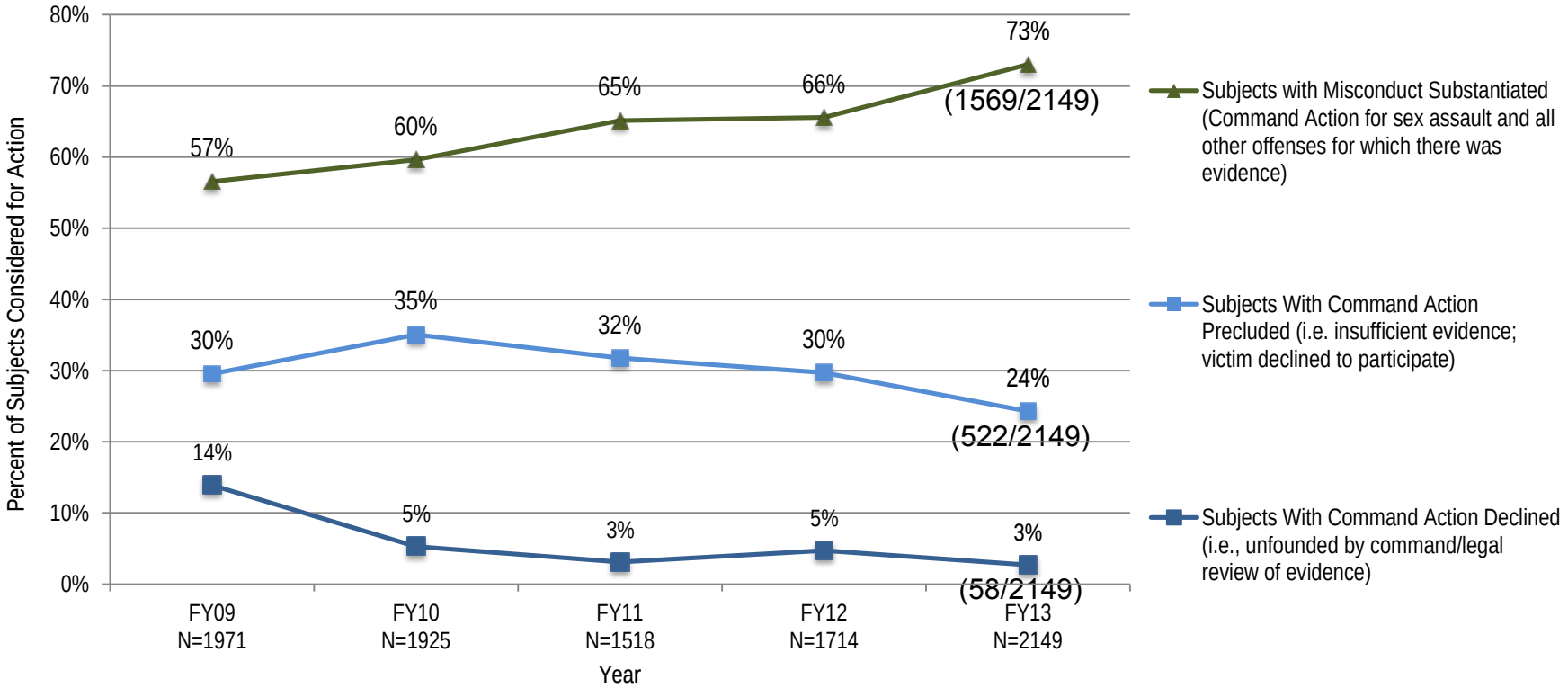
Service Member Victims in Reports of Sexual Assault to DoD, For Incidents that Occurred in Military Service, CY04–FY13



- Sexual assault is an underreported crime – meaning that reports to authorities fall far short of the actual number of incidents estimated to exist via confidential surveys. For as long as sexual assault remains significantly underreported, increased reporting is beneficial.
- This year's increased reporting is eroding the underreporting problem. Despite this year's overall increase in reporting, reporting behavior differs by gender:
  - Women: Of those women who indicate experiencing an incident of unwanted sexual contact, about 28 percent are accounted for in Unrestricted or Restricted Reports to DoD, up from 18 percent in FY12.**
  - Men: Of those men who indicate experiencing an incident of unwanted sexual contact, about 5 percent are accounted for in Unrestricted or Restricted Reports to DoD, up from 3 percent in FY12.**

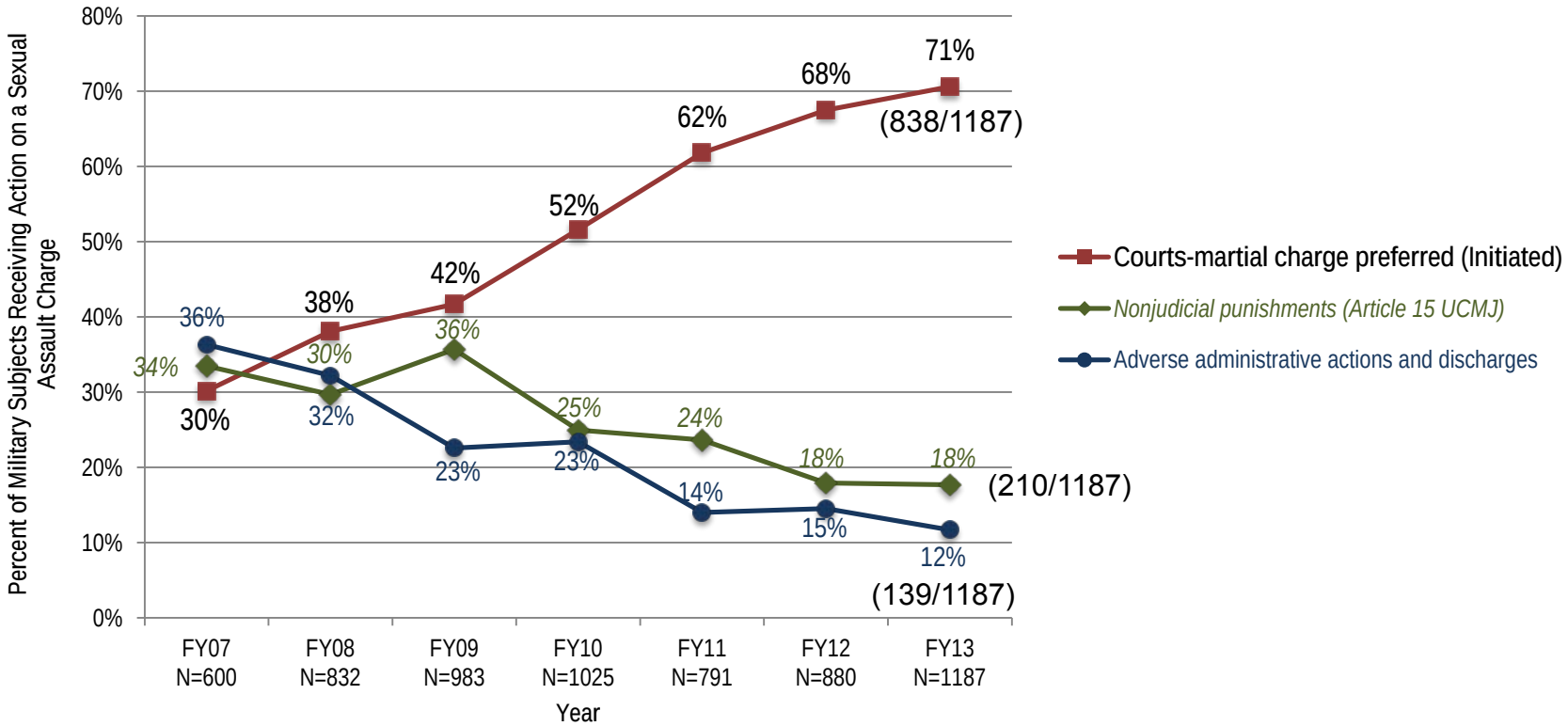
** Estimated; gender data not available for all military victims in Restricted Reports*
***Estimated Using 2012 WGRA Past-year Prevalence of Unwanted Sexual Contact and FY13 reporting data*

Military Subject Case Outcomes



- In FY13, DoD authorities considered 2,149 military subjects for possible action; nearly three-quarters received some form of disciplinary action for a sexual assault charge or for any other offense for which there was evidence.
- The other quarter of military subjects could not be disciplined because the evidence did not support action (24%) or because DoD authorities determined the allegations were unfounded (3%).

Command Action in Sexual Assault Offenses

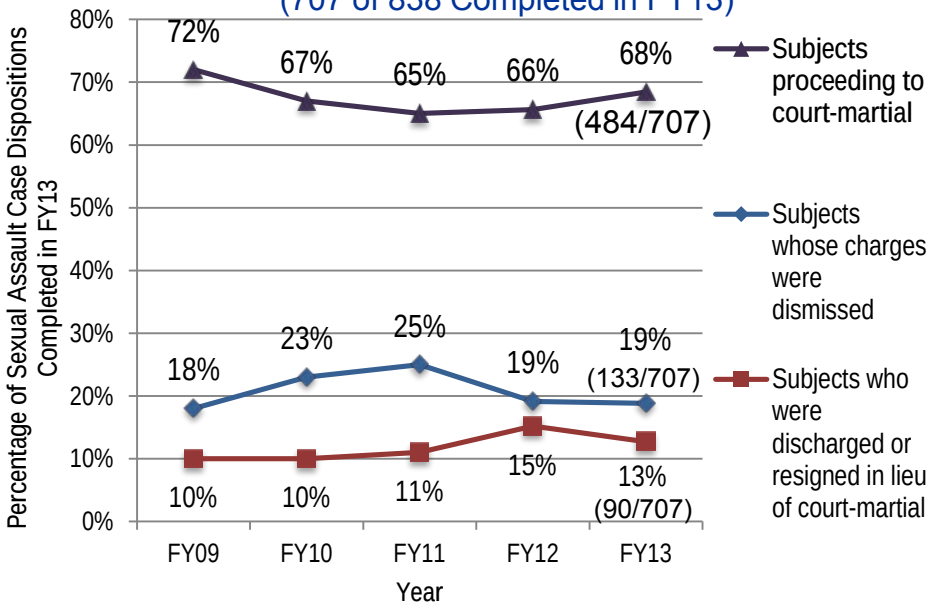


- When the subject is under the legal authority of the Department and there is sufficient evidence to take action, commanders are increasingly addressing allegations of sexual assault by preferring court-martial charges.
- In FY13, 209 of the 210 non-judicial punishments (NJP) administered was for a non-penetrating crime; one exception involved a victim who declined to participate at court.

Sexual Assault Court-Martial Outcomes

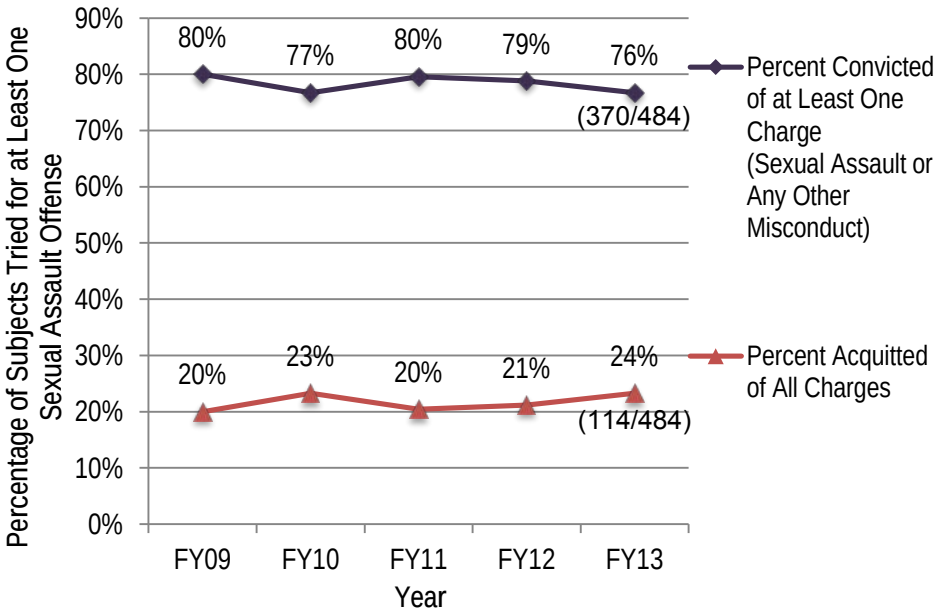
Pre-Trial Sexual Assault Case Dispositions

(707 of 838 Completed in FY13)



Over two thirds of subjects charged with a sexual assault offense proceeded to court-martial.

Sexual Assault Court-Martial Results



Over the past five years, of the subjects proceeding to court-martial for a sexual assault offense, between 76% and 80% are convicted of at least one offense at court-martial.

- The conviction may be for a sexual assault offense or any other charge for which there was evidence

FY13 Annual Report Disciplinary Action Summary

3,858 Total Subjects from Unrestricted Reports (FY13 and rolled over from prior FYs)
- 624 Subject disposition yet to be determined (rolled to future FYs)

3,234 Subject Dispositions Reported in FY13
- 437 Subjects–Allegations Unfounded by Military Criminal Investigative Organization

2,797 Alleged Perpetrators
- 503 Civilian, Foreign, Unknown or Deserter Subjects

2,294 Service Member Subjects
- 145 Service Member Under Civilian Jurisdiction

2,149 Service Member Subjects – Command Action Considered

Disciplinary Action Taken: 73% (1569/2149)

- 838 Court-Martial Charge Preferred
- 210 Nonjudicial Punishments
- 139 Adverse Administrative Actions or Discharges
- 382 Action on Non-Sexual Assault Offenses

- *580 Subjects - Command Action Not Possible or Declined*
  - *382 Subjects - Insufficient evidence of a crime to prosecute or unfounded*
  - *189 Subjects - Victims declined to participate in justice system*
  - *9 Subjects - Statute of limitations exceeded for crime alleged*

The Department takes action in every case where it has jurisdiction and sufficient evidence to do so. This year, 73% of subjects considered by commanders received some kind of disciplinary action.

FY13 Annual Report Takeaways

- Our results are measured in choices of victims, who are now reporting in unprecedented numbers
  - Historically, reports of sexual assault have increased about 5% per year since 2006
  - In FY13, reports are up an unprecedented 50% with commanders at the center of our military justice system making disposition decisions
  - This is supported by an additional metric demonstrating victim confidence – there are growing numbers of reports made by victims about incidents that took place prior to joining the military, up from 4% in FY12 to 10% of total reports in FY13
- There is no indication that the spike in reporting reflects an increase in crime
  - Rates of unwanted sexual contact in active duty men and women have stayed in a relatively narrow range since the Department began using its current prevalence measure in 2006
  - These metrics provide indications that our initiatives over the past year and a half are having an impact as more victims are reporting and accessing support services
- DoD's goals include increasing the percentage of victims who report while reducing sexual assault prevalence
  - Going forward, we will *intensify our efforts* to prevent the crime
  - To further these efforts, in conjunction with the release of this report, the Secretary is directing a series of prevention actions that will add to our response system

SAPR Mission, Lines of Efforts and Objectives

Mission: The Department of Defense prevents and responds to the crime of sexual assault in order to enable military readiness and reduce—with a goal to eliminate—sexual assault from the military.

Communication – Communicate DoD's efforts to support victim recovery, enable military readiness, and reduce—with a goal to eliminate—sexual assault from the military.

Lines of Effort	Objectives
Prevention - Deliver consistent and effective prevention methods and programs.	**Cultural imperatives of mutual respect and trust, professional values, and team commitment are reinforced to create an environment where sexual assault is not tolerated, condoned or ignored.**
Investigation - Achieve high competence in the investigation of sexual assault.	**Investigative resources yield timely and accurate results.**
Accountability - Achieve high competence in holding offenders appropriately accountable.	**Perpetrators are held appropriately accountable.**
Advocacy/Victim Assistance – Deliver consistent and effective victim support, response, and reporting options.	**DoD provides high quality services and support to instill confidence, inspire victims to report, and restore resilience.**
Assessment – Effectively standardize, measure, analyze, and assess program progress.	**DoD incorporates responsive, meaningful, and accurate systems of measurement and evaluation into every aspect of SAPR.**

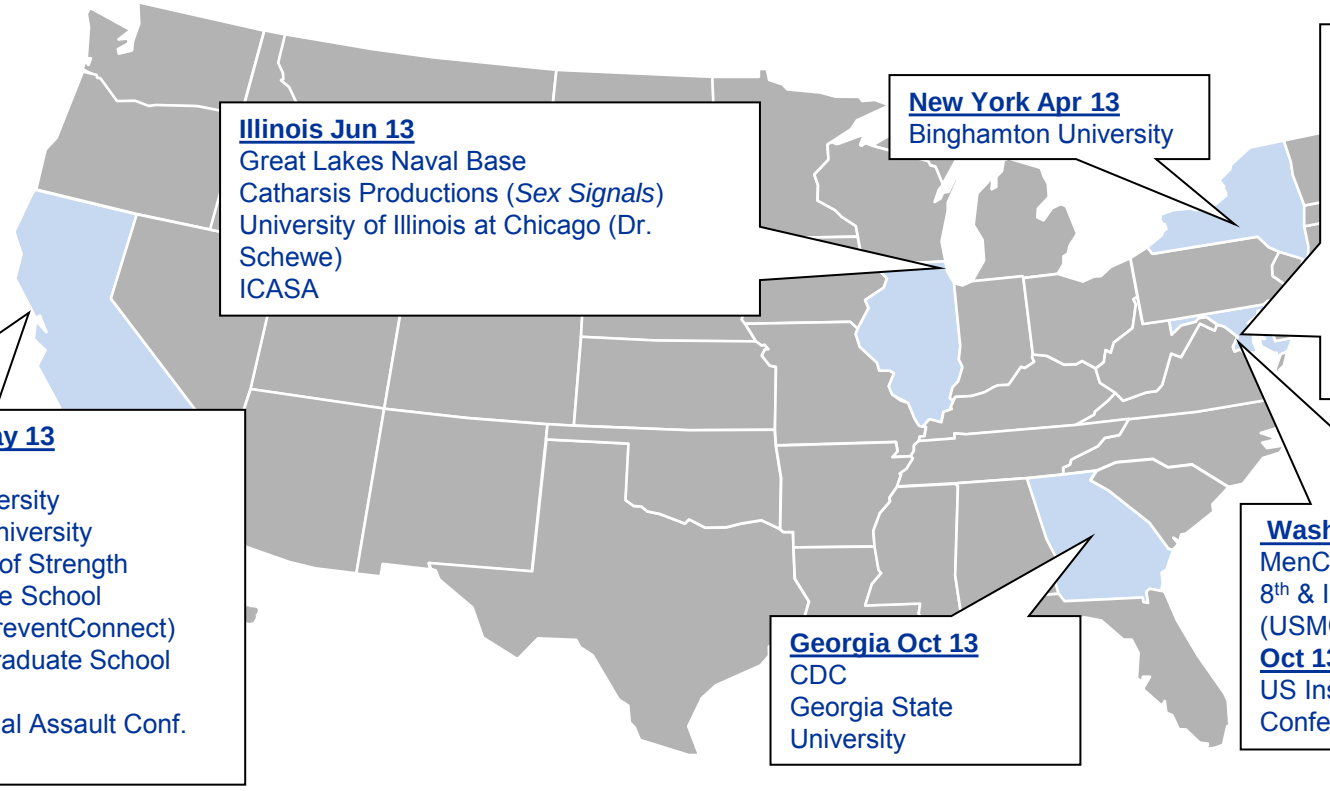
Way Forward:
Secretary of Defense Directives and Prevention Strategy

DoD Sexual Assault Prevention Strategy

- DoD is intensifying its focus on prevention throughout the force and has released an updated prevention strategy
- The 2014-2016 Sexual Assault Prevention Strategy employs these foundational understandings as core elements of our prevention program; we must:
  - Establish an environment of **mutual respect and trust, professional values, and team commitment** that reinforce standards for appropriate conduct
  - Cultivate initiatives and interventions at the **individual, relationship, leader, and unit levels** which positively impact Service member knowledge, skills, and attitudes, to influence their behaviors, while shaping **the military community** in which our members live and work
  - **Develop military leaders and commanders at every level who are informed by latest evidence-based practices** and empowered to establish appropriate climates while holding members accountable
  - **Focus on primary prevention** -- approaches that take place before sexual violence occurs -- while maintaining victim support
  - Continuously engage civilian and military stakeholders, cohorts, social groups, **and other parts of US society** to inform development and revision of dynamic prevention strategies and methods
  - Deliver targeted and gender-responsive initiatives to diverse audiences and unique environments to **support a climate free of inappropriate behaviors**

Research and Assessment Team Visits

The SAPRO Prevention Team held more than 45 sessions with subject matter experts to identify proven and successful prevention practices. Subject matter experts included representatives from sexual assault prevention, victim advocacy, and training organizations; universities; government agencies (e.g., FBI and CDC) and subject matter experts.



Illinois Jun 13
Great Lakes Naval Base
Catharsis Productions (*Sex Signals*)
University of Illinois at Chicago (Dr. Schewe)
ICASA

New York Apr 13
Binghamton University

Maryland Apr 13
Fort Meade (*Can I Kiss You*)
Jul13
MEPs Center (Fort Meade)
Sep13
NSA (Army, 704th MI BDE)
USNA ("1-4" peer program)

California May 13
UC Berkeley
Stanford University
Santa Cruz University
YWCA - Men of Strength
Quimby Middle School
CALCASA (PreventConnect)
Naval Post Graduate School
Aug 13
National Sexual Assault Conf. (LA)

Georgia Oct 13
CDC
Georgia State University

Washington DC Jul 13
MenCanStopRape
8th & I, Marine Barracks (USMC)
Oct 13
US Institute of Peace Conference

DoD SAPRO gathered over 200 prevention strategies, techniques, ideas, concepts, and programs through on-site visits, web/teleconferences, literature and research, and referrals from Congress, advocacy groups, Military Services, and foreign partners.

Contributing Subject Matter Experts

Forensic Consulting:

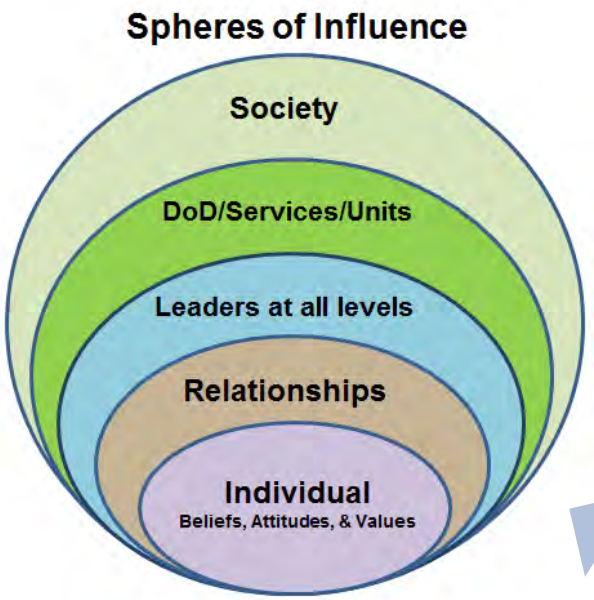
Dr. David Lisak – Sexual Assault Perpetrator Research

Interdisciplinary Center for Research on Violence Univ. of Illinois at Chicago:

Dr. Paul Schewe

Men's Program (One in Four):

Dr John Foubert



Psychology College of Liberal Arts Univ. of New Hampshire:

Dr. Vicki Banyard

Catharsis Productions:

Dr. Gail Stern

Men Can Stop Rape:

Dr. Pat McGann

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape:

Ms. Liz Zadnik

U.S. Army Military Police School:

Mr. Russell Strand

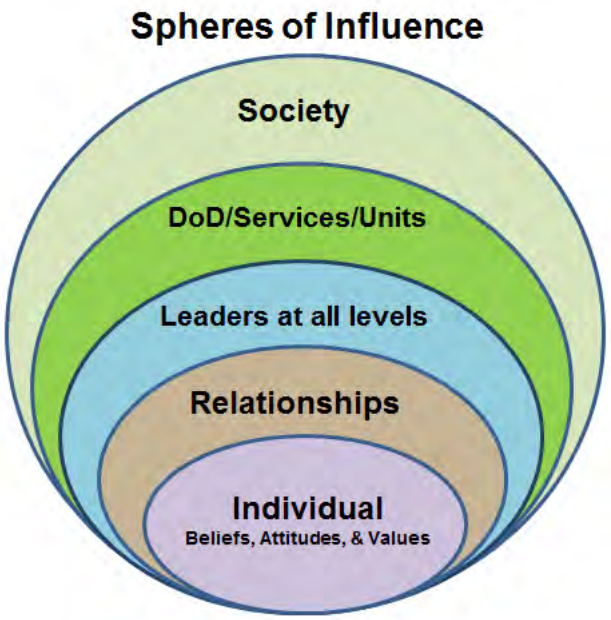
References to any non-federal entity are not intended to be an endorsement of that entity by DoD.

2014-2016 DoD Sexual Assault Prevention Strategy

Objective: To deliver consistent and effective prevention methods and programs.

End State: Cultural imperatives of mutual respect and trust, professional values, and team commitment are reinforced to create an environment where sexual assault is not tolerated, condoned, or ignored.

★ **Leaders are the "center of gravity" for prevention efforts**



Social-Ecological Model

Key Means – Resources	*Key Ways – Objectives*	Supporting *End states*
DoD Benchmark Prevention Programs and Research	Develop DoD national benchmark prevention program that sets the example for civil society to follow	Acceptance and endorsement of the values shared by DoD
Directives, strategies, and policies	Institutionalize sexual assault prevention practices and programs throughout Department	Institutionalized culture & values, supported by policies
Leader mentorship and unit climate	Influence personnel values, attitudes, and behaviors	Establishment and maintenance of a culture/climate which supports the prevention of sexual assault
Education, skills building, & training	Promote healthy and supportive relationships between peers, partners, family, and friends	An environment in which Service members' networks support a culture of sexual assault prevention
Education, skills building, & training	Promote healthy social-emotional relationship skills	Identify, act, and intervene to prevent inappropriate behaviors associated with sexual assault

Strategic Plan Linkage to Social-Ecological Model

2013 DoD Prevention Strategy Tasks/Interventions	Society	DoD/Service/ Unit	Leaders	Relationships	Individual
Implement the *2013 DoD SAPR Strategic Plan*.		X	X	X	X
Conduct collaborative review to update the *2008 DoD Sexual Assault Prevention Strategy*.**	X	X	X		
Enhance and integrate SAPR Professional Military Education in accordance with NDAA FY12 requirements.** ++		X	X	X	X
Develop core competencies and learning objectives for all SAPR training to ensure consistency throughout the military.		X	X	X	X
Enhance Pre-command and Senior Enlisted SAPR training.** ^^			X		
Enhance SAPR accession training and programs. Explain sexual assault policies to all Service members within 14 days of their entrance on active duty. ** ^^				X	X
Operationalize findings and recommendations from Initial Military Training reviews.		X	X	X	X
Establish and implement policies that mitigate high-risk behaviors and personal vulnerabilities (e.g., alcohol consumption, barracks visitation).**				X	X
Develop, conduct, and assess command climate surveys within 120 days of assuming command and annually as appropriate.** ^^		X	X		
Deploy SAPR innovation and assessment teams to identify and share promising prevention strategies and techniques.	X	X	X	X	X
Establish collaboration forum with external experts, federal partners, Military Services, advocacy organizations, and educational institutions to capture and share prevention best practices and lessons learned.	X	X			
Review national (e.g., state, university), and coalition (e.g., U.K. and Canada) SAPR programs to identify best practices and lessons learned.	X	X			
Enhance SAPR Annual/Pre-/Post-deployment Training. ++			X	X	X
Incorporate specific SAPR monitoring, measures, and education into normal command training, readiness and safety forums (e.g., quarterly training guidance, unit status reports, safety briefings).**		X			
Establish assignment transition policy that ensures Service member sponsorship, unit integration, and immediate assignment into a chain of command.**		X	X	X	X
Explore expansion of SAPR training to include Recruit Sustainment Programs, Student Flight Programs, and for National Guard prior to arrival at Basic Training.					X

What the Experts Say

U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention: Dr. Howard Spivak & Dr. Andra Tharp

- Reviewed strategy
- Multiple working groups
- Latest alcohol policy research
- Expertise - Latest evidenced based practices for Sexual Violence

"I am envious of how focused and comprehensive their efforts are probably going to be in comparison to our civilian efforts."

"I'm impressed by how skillfully they have distilled a large amount of information into a solid and thoughtful strategy."

California Coalition Against Sexual Assault: Mr. David Lee

- Reviewed strategy
- Expertise - Primary Prevention Community of Practice assistance (Prevent Connect)

"I am pleased with the ecological approach and recognition that cultural change requires a comprehensive approach. It's great to think about the metrics that will measure the change - that is something that the research literature has not yet shown us."

Independent Consultant: Dr. Alan Berkowitz

- Reviewed strategy
- Strategy tasks
- Expertise - Social norms linkages, bystander intervention

"I think that this is a very good document that embodies a pro-active comprehensive vision of prevention with the emphasis put in the right places."

Wayne State University: Dr. Antonia Abbey

Reviewed strategy

- SV research related to alcohol
- Expertise - Etiology of sexual aggression

"I particularly appreciate the focus on multiple levels of intervention, on leadership, and on addressing the formal and informal climate that allows sexual harassment and sexual aggression to occur."

SECDEF Directed SAPR Initiatives

- **Implement Prevention Strategy**: Secretaries of Military Departments, with input from the Chiefs of the Military Services & NGB, will implement the 2014-2016 DoD Sexual Assault Prevention Strategy. The strategy builds on the current DoD Strategic Plan; identifies leaders at all levels as critical components in prevention; and integrates accountability, community involvement, communication, deterrence, incentives, training & education, and harm reduction. (Jul 31, 2014)
- **Advance & Sustain Appropriate Culture:** To further enhance prevention programs, the Secretaries of the Military Departments in conjunction with the Chiefs of the Military Services & NGB will update and integrate gender-responsive and culturally competent programs for leaders and Service members to address healthy relationships, bystander intervention, social courage, and core values that support establishment of mutual respect. (Nov 1, 2014)
- **Evaluate Commander SAPR Training:** To ensure all leaders are educated on sexual assault response policies and provided appropriate tools to prevent the crime, the USD P&R will conduct assessments of the effectiveness of core competencies and learning objectives for Pre-Command and Senior Enlisted Leaders SAPR training. (Sep 1, 2014)
- **Review Alcohol Policies:** To improve the safety of Service members and reduce the risks posed by alcohol, Secretaries of the Military Departments will review and revise as necessary alcohol policies to address risk factors beyond individual use of alcohol, to include provider training, responsible sales practices, and engaging local community leadership off-post. (Nov 1, 2014)
- **Improve Reporting for Male Victims:** To promote recovery among male victims, the Secretaries of the Military Departments in conjunction with the Chiefs of the Military Services & NGB will implement and monitor methods to enhance efforts to encourage male victims to seek assistance and report sexual assaults. (Jan 5, 2015)
- **Develop Collaborative Forum for Sexual Assault Prevention Methods:** To leverage and advance on-going research and effective preventative methods, the USD P&R will establish a community of practice and collaboration forum to share best and promising practices and lessons learned. (Nov 1, 2014)
- **Develop Standardized and Voluntary Survey for Victims and Survivors:** To further improve our collective response by engaging victims, Chiefs of the Military Services & NGB in cooperation with USD P&R will jointly develop and participate in a standardized victim survey. (June 1, 2014)

Progress Report to the President

Progress Report to the President

- On 20 Dec 2013, POTUS directed SECDEF to provide a report demonstrating progress in the DoD on SAPR by Dec 2014; DoD's report to POTUS will:
  - Demonstrate DoD-wide SAPR efforts and leadership to POTUS
  - Exhibit command climate that is intolerant of harassment and assault
  - Illustrate comprehensive prevention and response system
  - Show clear measures of progress - both quantitative & qualitative:
    - Demonstrate signs of culture change
    - Measure outcomes of tasks and initiatives in Lines of Effort
    - Include past-year (FY14) prevalence rate of unwanted sexual contact
    - Provide an assessment of victim satisfaction and confidence in the system:
      - Demonstrate that reports progress as intended through the system
      - Describe experience of victims qualitatively
      - Address concerns of retaliation
      - Illustrate how investigations proceed appropriately
    - Provide review of the military justice system to include recent reforms (DoD OGC)
    - Show that cases are being processed correctly
  - Offer examples of best practices, projects, and interventions
  - Identify what other reforms, if any, are necessary

Report Content

- **Scope**
  - Selected Initiatives from Dec 2011 to Sept 2014
    - POTUS Letter Requested Scope: Aug 2013 to Dec 2014
- **Format**
  - DoD Overview
    - By Line of Effort: Metrics & Non-Metric Areas
    - Statistical Section
  - Surveys
    - Workplace & Gender Relations Survey (RAND)
    - Survivor Experience Survey
  - Focus Groups
  - Service & NGB Enclosures
  - UCMJ Review (Joint Service Committee)

Surveys

- **Workplace & Gender Relations Survey**
  - Who: RAND
  - When: Aug-Sept 2014 (Projected)
  - Population: Active & Reserve Components
  - Top Line Results**: Due 15 October 2014
    - Analysis: Past-year Prevalence Estimate of "Sexual Assault"
      - By Gender, By Service
      - By Gender, By Type of Crime

  ***Full report not due until Spring 2015*

- **Survivor Experience Survey**
  - Who: DMDC
  - When: May-Sept 2014
  - Population: Survivors 30-150 days after filing a report
  - Results: Due 15 October 2014
    - Analysis: Organized by Service (Active & Reserve) & NGB
    - Includes both Unrestricted and Restricted Reports
    - Vetted by SMEs for relevance, appropriateness, and sensitivity

Surveys (cont.)

- **Service Member Focus Groups**
  - Who: DMDC
  - When: May-Aug 2014
  - Results: Due 15 October 2014
  - Overview: DoD-wide analysis of common themes (not broken down by Service)

Trainees
E1-E2 (some E3-E4)
Training Installations in US
Males / Females

Junior Enlisted
E3-E4
US Installations
Males/Females

Mid-Level Enlisted
E5-E6
US Installations
Males/Females

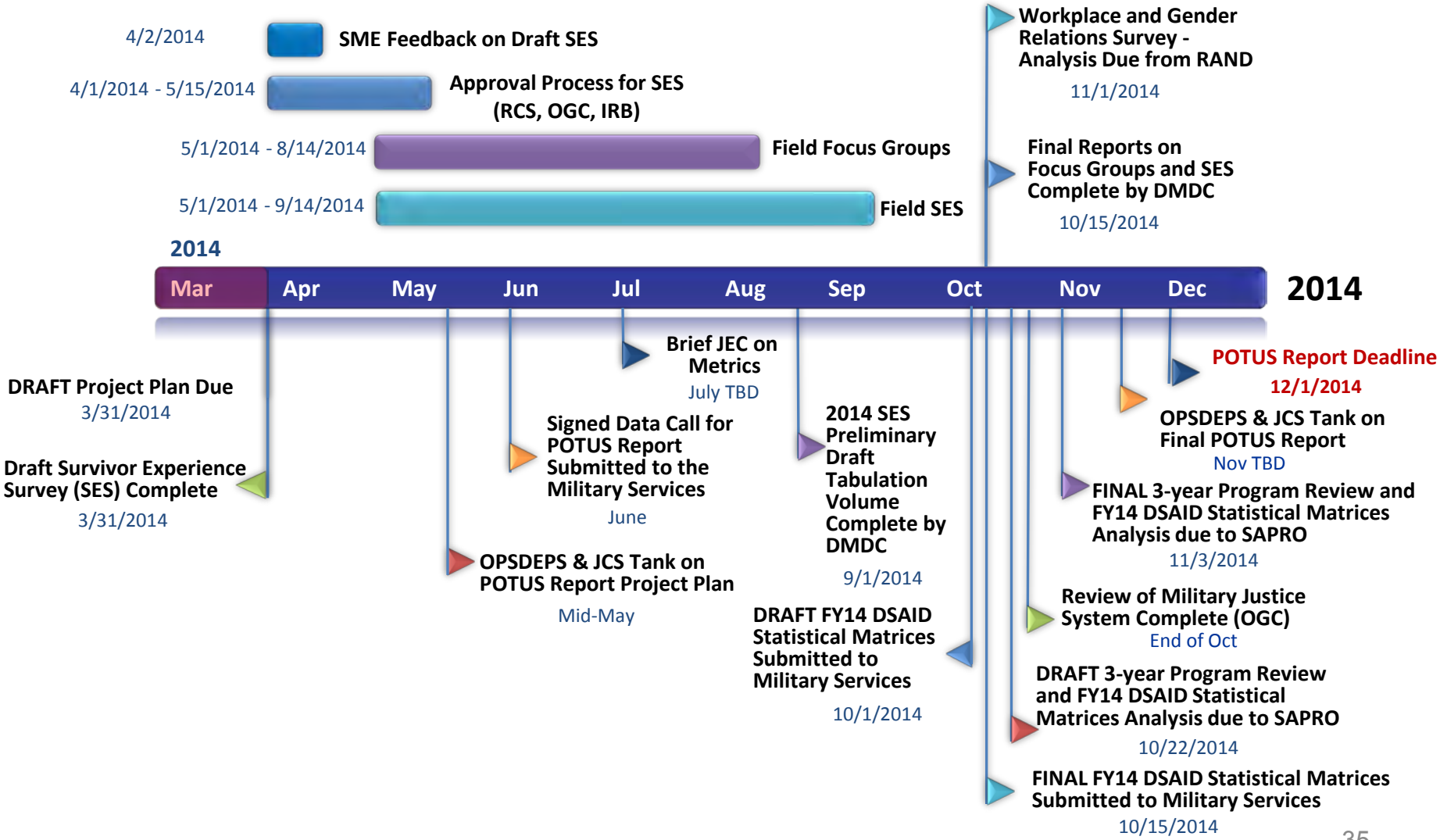
Junior Officers
02-03
US Installations
Males/Females

Senior Enlisted
E7-E9
US Installations
Mixed

Military Justice System

- DoD Office of General Counsel to conduct review of the military justice system; Review will consist of the following:
  - Major differences between the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) and civilian justice systems
  - UCMJ procedures prior to SECDEF's April 20, 2012 withholding of initial disposition authority in certain sexual assault cases
  - Major reforms in processing and adjudicating Sexual Assault Cases
  - Overview of how military sexual assault cases arising after December 26, 2014 will be handled
  - Additional potential UCMJ reforms

POTUS Report Timeline



White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

The White House Report: "Not Alone"

January 22, 2014: The White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault was established with a mandate to strengthen federal enforcement efforts and provide schools with additional tools to help combat sexual assault on their campuses. In April they offered their first set of action steps and recommendations:

1. Identifying the problem: initiate on-campus climate surveys
2. Preventing sexual assaults: using evidence-based recommendations from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control
3. Effectively responding when a student is sexually assaulted
   - Providing someone that a victim can speak to in confidence
   - Drafting a comprehensive sexual misconduct policy
   - Trauma-informed training for school officials
   - Crafting better school disciplinary systems
   - Creating partnerships with the community
4. Increasing transparency and improving enforcement
   - More transparency and information provided to the public
   - Improved enforcement of laws and policies that promote student safety and respect

DoD Equity in the White House Report

1. Identifying the Problem: Initiate on-campus Climate Surveys
   - DoD has used representative, scientifically-conducted surveys since 2006 (WGRA and DEOCS) to estimate the depth of the problem (past-year prevalence of sexual assault)
   - The SECDEF directed the Services in 2013 to annually survey their units to assess their progress in creating climates of dignity and respect

2. Preventing Sexual Assaults: Using Evidence-based Recommendations from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control
   - DoD recently published the 2014-2016 Prevention Strategy, based on CDC guidance and feedback
   - DoD has also updated and standardized all forms of SAPR training and standardized leadership evaluations

DoD Equity in the White House Report

3. Effectively Responding When a Student is Sexually Assaulted
   - Confidential Reporting - closely models DoD Restricted Reporting;
     - Allows confidentiality for sexual assault reports to certain specified individuals; allows victims to engage in care without sparking an official investigation.
   - Developing a Comprehensive Sexual Assault Policy – models the Department's comprehensive sexual assault policy (DoDI 6495.01 and DoDI 6495.02).
   - Training for School Officials - models the Department's Pre-command training for military commanders, as put in place by SECDEF directive in 2012.
   - Identifying New Investigative and Adjudicative Protocols - models the work and course curricula that DoD has employed to improve training for military investigators and prosecutors.
   - Further DoD Measures used to inform Task Force recommendations:
     - DoD special victims' advocacy program, which offers an attorney to represent the victim throughout the military justice process
     - Review of criminal investigations for investigative sufficiency/ compliance with policy
     - Specialized training for investigators and prosecutors on the effects of trauma on memory and interviewing techniques to enhance victim recall

DoD Equity in the White House Report

4. Increasing Transparency and Improving Enforcement
   - The White House Task Force outlines a number of means by which colleges and universities can become more transparent and improve their enforcement of policies and law that contribute to student safety and respect.
   - Since the SAPR Program was instituted in 2005, the Department of Defense, in close partnership internal and external stakeholders, has used a variety of means to be transparent in improve accountability, including:
     - Annual reporting on sexual assaults, case outcomes, and policy/program improvements
     - Instituting means and methods by which commanders regularly assess and are held accountable for their unit climates
     - Improving the military justice process by elevating to senior leaders initial disposition authority for sexual assault crimes

In their Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault, the White House benchmarked the Department's SAPR program to combat this crime on college campuses throughout the nation.

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response:

- Understand and own the problem
- Conduct prevalence research
- Provide professional advocacy
- Provide confidential reporting
- Ensure victim focus and empower victims to choose the manner in which they heal
- Conduct mandatory and independent investigations
- Field special victim capabilities
- Hold offenders appropriately accountable
- Conduct system oversight
- Measure and report effectiveness

The Department of Defense aspires to be a national leader in combatting sexual assaults while continuing to prevent and respond to this terrible crime.

DoD SAPR Program Way Ahead

- Sustain multi-pronged approach – no single "silver bullet" solution
  - Requires sustained progress, persistence, innovation, and multi-disciplinary approach in prevention, investigation, accountability, victim assistance & assessment
- Intensify prevention efforts to reinforce cultural imperatives of mutual respect and trust, team commitment, and professional values
  - Recognize that sexual harassment is strongly correlated with sexual assault
- Continue to educate frontline commanders and leaders at all levels and hold them accountable in establishing and sustaining a culture of dignity and respect
  - Must include programs on healthy relationships, bystander intervention, and peer leadership/social courage
- Continue to ensure victim focus and control to help overcome vast underreporting
  - Treat every case with utmost seriousness, protect privacy, allow victims to choose the manner in which they heal, and provide professional advocacy
  - Reporting is an essential bridge to victim care and accountability
- Sustain commitment to holding offenders appropriately accountable – we are improving investigative and accountability efforts through Special Victims Capability, UCMJ reviews, and comprehensive oversight actions

Questions?