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Personnel

**SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND
RESPONSE (SAPR) PROGRAM**

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This directive provides policy and assigns responsibility for the prevention of and response to sexual assault and establishes command relationships, authorities and responsibilities in support of the policy. The policy applies to all levels of command and all Air Force organizations including the Active Duty, Air Force government civilian employees, Air Force Academy, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve components while in Federal service. It addresses the requirements of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2005, P.L. 108-375, as amended and supplemented, October 28, 2004, Section 577(e), and implements Department of Defense Directive 6495.01, *Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program*.

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1. Policy. The United States Air Force will not tolerate sexual assault. Sexual assault is criminal conduct. It falls well short of the standards America expects of its men and women in uniform. It violates Air Force Core Values. Inherent in the Air Force Core

Values of Integrity First, Service before Self and Excellence in All We Do, is **respect**: self-respect, mutual respect, and respect for the Air Force as an institution. It is Air Force policy to:

- 1.1. Eliminate sexual assault within the Department of the Air Force by fostering a culture of prevention, providing education and training, response capability, victim support, reporting procedures, and accountability that enhances the safety and well-being of all its members.

1.2. Provide an immediate, trained response capability for each report of sexual assault and ensure victims are protected, treated with dignity and respect, and receive timely access to appropriate treatment and services.

1.3. Ensure strong commander-focused prevention and response programs, as well as law enforcement, investigative, and criminal justice policies and procedures that address victim safety and hold offenders accountable for their actions to the fullest extent of the law.

1.4. Encourage prompt, complete, unrestricted reporting of sexual assault allegations to activate victim services and accountability responses. Victims should be appropriately encouraged to make unrestricted reports.

1.5. Provide a restricted reporting option that allows a Service member who is sexually assaulted to confidentially disclose information about the assault to specified individuals and receive medical treatment, counseling, and advocacy without automatically triggering an official investigative process.

1.6. Prohibit the enlistment or commissioning of personnel in the active duty Air Force, Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve components when the person has a qualifying conviction for a crime of sexual assault.

2. Definitions. Terms used in this Policy Directive are defined in [Attachment 1](#) and comply with those required in DODD 6495.01.

3. Responsibilities and Authorities.

3.1. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (SAF/MR) serves as an agent of the Secretary and provides guidance, direction, and oversight for all matters pertaining to the formulation, review, and execution of plans, policies, programs, and budgets addressing sexual assault. Develops performance-based metrics, leading indicators, and feedback protocols to assess ongoing program performance.

3.2. The Inspector General (SAF/IG) is responsible for oversight of criminal investigations performed by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) and for other investigations and matters under his or her authority as Inspector General. The SAF/IG is responsible for ensuring proper training of AFOSI personnel and other appropriate investigators in sexual assault policy and related matters.

3.3. The Air Force General Counsel (SAF/GC) establishes legal policy and provides legal oversight and guidance for all aspects of sexual assault policy, and other matters related to sexual assault as needed, except those matters directly related to the administration of military justice.

3.4. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Personnel (HQ USAF/A1) is the primary HAF Focal Point (FP) for activities related to this directive, to include resourcing of the program and reporting on program accomplishment. HQ USAF/A1 will develop Air Force Instructions (AFI) implementing this directive, making maximum use of goals, objectives, and performance-based measures that address sexual assault issues during peacetime, contingencies, hostilities, and war. HQ USAF/A1 is responsible for development and approval of required training for Air Force Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARC) and Air Force Victim Advocates (VA), and establishes annual training requirements to comply with DOD mandated training standards.