



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
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AMIM-EIW-A

7 January 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Garrison Commander's Policy Memorandum No. 17 – Family Advocacy Program

1. References:

- a. Army Regulation 608-1, Army Community Service, October 19, 2017.
- b. Army Regulation 608-18, The Army Family Advocacy Program, Rapid Action Revision (RAR) Issue Date: 13 September 2011.
- c. DoDI 6400.06, December 15, 2021, Change 2, May 16, 2023, DOD Coordinated Community Response To Domestic Abuse Involving DoD Military and Certain Affiliated Personnel.
- d. DoDM 6400.01, Volume 2, August 11, 2016, Family Advocacy Program (FAP): Child Abuse and Domestic Abuse Incident Reporting System.

2. The mission of the FAP is to prevent and reduce domestic/intimate partner abuse, child abuse, and child neglect. The program strives to promote strong, resilient Soldiers and Families by establishing information and educational programs and supportive services. The FAP mission also includes ensuring prompt reporting, assessment, and investigation of incidents of suspected abuse while providing treatment to all affected Family Members.

3. Family violence is contrary to Army values and threatens the safety and welfare of our military Families and communities. It includes child abuse, child neglect and spouse abuse/intimate partner abuse. Family violence undermines unit cohesion, morale, and readiness. Preventing Family violence is a Command priority and responsibility.

4. All tenant commands, agencies, and activities on the installation are required to comply with the provisions of Army Regulation (AR) 608-18, FAP, and adhere to the guidance stated in this memorandum. Commanders are responsible for taking immediate steps to alleviate Family violence. Commanders are required to promptly report all incidents of suspected child abuse, child neglect, and domestic/intimate partner abuse to the installation's Reporting Point of Contact (RPOC). The RPOC is an established reporting system for handling all domestic and child abuse incidents.

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To establish a more comprehensive response, the Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center (DDEAMC) FAP Clinical office is assigned as the installation's Reporting Point of Contact (RPOC) for suspected child and domestic/intimate partner abuse cases.

a. Reports of suspected domestic/intimate partner abuse and child neglect or child abuse can be made by calling (706) 787-3656 during duty hours. The RPOC may be reached by calling (706) 787-3945 to report suspected child abuse and domestic/intimate partner abuse incidents occurring after duty hours.

b. The RPOC is also responsible for reporting all cases of Problematic Sexual Behavior in Children and Youth (PSB-CY) to the Family Advocacy Program Manager (FAPM) at (706) 791-7867 at any time.

c. Persons with known or suspected physical injuries should be referred for medical assessment, diagnosis and treatment at the DDEAMC Emergency Department (ED) without delay, especially in cases involving disclosed or suspected strangulation.

5. If an agency other than DDEAMC Family Advocacy Program-Clinical (FAP-C) receives the report of suspected PSB-CY, the call should be immediately re-directed to the FAPM. Re-directing the telephone call will aid the RPOC in gathering the relevant information for a timely response. Refer all cases involving disclosures of or suspicion of child sexual abuse to the DDEAMC ED.

6. There are two reporting options for adult victims of domestic abuse:

a. The unrestricted reporting option allows the victim to report an incident to the chain of command and law enforcement which will trigger an investigation of the allegation. Details regarding the incident will be limited only to those personnel who have a legitimate need to know. The victim and alleged abuser can expect the unit commander to initiate the mandatory 72 hour no-contact order, which allows each party a cooling off period. All agencies on the installation will report unrestricted domestic abuse allegations to the RPOC by calling (706) 787-3656 during the duty day.

b. The restricted reporting option allows the adult victim to share the incident information with specific personnel/agencies without triggering an investigation by the chain of command or law enforcement. Adult domestic abuse victims may access the restricted reporting option by contacting a Health Care Provider (to include FAP-C) at (706) 787-3656, a Victim Advocate at (706) 791-STOP (7867), or their unit Chaplain. It is essential to utilize these channels when requesting to file a restricted report. If the incident is reported to the Military Police (MP) desk, an investigation will be initiated and chain of command will be notified, thus eliminating the opportunity to utilize the

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restricted reporting option. Information reported using the restricted reporting option will be held in confidence, thus neither chain of command, nor law enforcement will be notified. The restricted reporting option does not apply to suspected child abuse cases.

c. Regardless of reporting options, victims may access medical care through the DDEAMC ED.

7. Individuals who are impacted by domestic/intimate partner abuse and/or child abuse have a right to receive counseling, treatment, legal and educational information, safety planning and referrals by contacting the FAP-C Staff or a Victim Advocate. Support for victims is available through FAP-C, at (706) 787-3656 and the FAP Victim Advocacy Program at (706) 791-7867. These victims are also entitled to medical evaluation and care at the DDEAMC ED or any local Emergency Room.

8. Domestic/intimate partner abuse and/or child abuse offenders will be offered counseling, treatment, information, and referrals through the FAP-C Staff.

9. Commanders should be aware of the Transitional Compensation Program. Spouses or children may be eligible for this benefit if the following apply:

- a. Individual was married to the abusive Service Member,
- b. The Service Member was convicted of a dependent-abuse offense, or
- c. The Service Member was separated from the military under a court-martial sentence; sentenced to a forfeiture of all pay and allowances by a court-martial for a dependent-abuse offense; administratively separated, at least in part, for a dependent-abuse offense.

10. For incidents of dependent abuse, commanders shall contact the FAP-C or the installation's Victim Witness Liaison personnel for guidance on the procedures to establish entitlements to transitional compensation.

11. Commanders should also be aware of the New Parent Support Program-Home Visitation (NPSP-HV) initiative. The NPSP provides support to Families through a combination of services before and after a child's birth up to the age of three. These services include, but are not limited to home visits, parent education, parent and child bonding, playtime, child development, and information and referral. The NPSP is a vital voluntary program that is designed to increase parental skills and reduce incidents of child abuse or neglect. Both parents are encouraged to participate in the NPSP initiative.

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12. As adults, we are responsible for ensuring that children are protected and nurtured. Any case of known or suspected child abuse/child neglect should be reported immediately to the RPOC. Children with a disclosure or suspicion of abuse or neglect should be evaluated for medical injuries at the DDEAMC ED. The alleged offender in a child abuse incident can expect to be removed from the home until the completion of the investigation/assessment.

13. Failure to supervise or safeguard children or to comply with this policy may result in a finding of neglect or a violation of Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (Failure to Obey an Order or Regulation). All allegations of child neglect or abuse will be reported to the FAP-C by calling (706) 787-3656 during duty hours or (706) 787-3945 after duty hours.

14. When Commanders are asked to attend the Incident Determination Committee (IDC) meetings to address allegations of child abuse or domestic/intimate partner abuse, the expectation is for the Commander (or his/her representative) to attend and support the IDC and Clinical Case Staffing Committee (CCSM) treatment recommendations.

15. Army Regulation 608-18, paragraph 3-2 b (6) stipulates mandatory FAP briefings for Company/Unit Commanders and Senior Enlisted (E-7 through E-9) within 45 days of appointment to a Command position and annual training thereafter. In addition to this requirement, all Company/Unit Commanders are responsible for scheduling annual FAP Awareness briefings for all Soldiers. Commanders may call the Family Advocacy Program Specialist at (706) 791-3579 to schedule these briefings.

16. Taking care of Families is essential to promoting Command readiness and Family well-being. It is imperative that the community works together to prevent Family violence and reports the violence once it occurs. We can enhance the lives of military Families by working together.

17. The Point of Contact for this policy memorandum is the Family Advocacy Program Manager at: (706) 791-5891.

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Commanding