**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT GORDON
307 CHAMBERLAIN AVENUE
FORT GORDON, GEORGIA 30905-5730

AMIM-GOG-ZA (1FF)

OCT 2 3 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Garrison Commander's Policy Memorandum No. 16 - Family Advocacy Program

1. Reference: AR 608-18 (The Army Family Advocacy Program).

2. The mission of the Family Advocacy Program (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, Family Advocacy Program, 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). To establish a more comprehensive response, the Fort Gordon Military Law Enforcement is assigned as the installation's 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 Military Law Enforcement at (706) 949-4829 for reporting. Child abuse and neglect reports also need to be made to the Georgia Child Abuse and Neglect reporting hotline at (855) 422-4453.

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) 791-5891/(706) 564-9539.

5. If an agency other than Dwight David Eisenhower Army Clinic (DDEAMC) FAP Clinical 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.

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) 949-4829.

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, the Family Advocacy Program at (706) 787-3656, a Domestic Abuse Victim Advocate (DAVA) 24/7 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 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.

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 or a DAVA. Support for victims is available through FAP, at (706) 787-3656 and the Domestic Abuse Victim Advocates 24/7 at (706) 791-7867.

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 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 New Parent Support Program (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.

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. 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 Fort Gordon Military Law Enforcement by calling (706) 949-4829 and the Georgia Child Abuse and Neglect reporting hotline at (855) 422-4453.

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. In order for a Command representative to serve as a voting member of the IDC, they must complete the required IDC training and provide a copy of their certificate to the FAPM prior to participating in the IDC.

15. AR 608-18 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 FAP 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.

NANCY K. HARRIS
COL, SC
Commanding

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