CAROL OBERWAGER-SPENCER

SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COORDINATOR
SEXUAL HARRASSMENT/ASSAULT RESPONSE
AND PREVENTION PROGRAM
FORT LEONARD WOOD

Responds to cases of sexual assault and sexual harassment and aids sexual assault victims through the medical, investigative and legal process; provides support and helps sexual harassment victims with the complaint process; teaches/facilitates SHARP classes to aid in the response and prevention of sexual harassment and assault





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Why did you choose a career as a DA Civilian?

After serving 24 years as a MEDCOM Soldier, I wanted to continue to serve our military members, family members, DoD Civilians and retirees, so it was a perfect transition for me. I get to continue doing what I love, which is taking care of others.

What is your most memorable experience as a DA Civilian?

My most memorable experience as a DA Civilian has been **teaching the Rape Aggression Defense Systems of Basic Physical Defense for Women.** It is so much fun to have wonderful ladies ages 13 to 92 attend the course. **Watching some of the participants come in so quiet and leave with a voice is powerful for everyone involved.** Not to mention, it is a lot of fun for the instructors and the participants.

What are the benefits of working as a DA Civilian?

Being there when you are needed is one of the greatest feelings in the world. Being able to reassure someone that what happened to them was not their fault, and that they are not alone in navigating the situation, is what makes it all worthwhile.

What advice would you give to others considering becoming a DA Civilian?

Look for the opportunities that exist within the system. Continue your education and knowledge base, and take the hard jobs. Network with people in your field, and in fields similar to yours. Always apply for every job you are qualified for, or think you might be qualified for. The worst that can happen is you don't get referred, but the best that could happen is you get the career and future you desire.

What do you like most about your job/career as a DA Civilian?

The thing I like most about my career is **the people I am privileged to work with every day**, whether it be the amazing co-workers or the courageous people who come to the SHARP program for help, resources or just needing someone to listen.

