

**When a Victim Confides In a Person Outside of the Restricted Report
Service Policies**

Service	Policy	Source
DOD	<p>In establishing the Restricted Reporting option, DoD recognizes that a victim may tell someone (e.g., roommate, friend, family member) that a sexual assault has occurred before considering whether to file a Restricted or Unrestricted Report.</p> <p>(1) A victim’s communication with another person (e.g., roommate, friend, family member) does not, in and of itself, prevent the victim from later electing to make a Restricted Report. Restricted Reporting is confidential, not anonymous, reporting. However, if the person to whom the victim confided the information (e.g., roommate, friend, family member) is in the victim’s officer and or non-commissioned officer chain of command or DoD law enforcement, there can be no Restricted Report.</p> <p>(2) Communications between the victim and a person other than the SARC, SAPR VA, or healthcare personnel are NOT confidential and do not receive the protections of Restricted Reporting.</p>	DOD Instruction 6495.02, March 28, 2013, incorporating Change 1, February 12, 2014, Enclosure 4, ¶ (1)(e).
Air Force	SARCs and VAs should also notify victims that any disclosure of information about their sexual assault to individuals other than the SARC, VA or Healthcare Personnel may result in the initiation of an official investigation regarding the allegations that the victim disclosed.	AFI36-6001 ¶3.1.9.8.2
Army	In the event that information about a sexual assault is disclosed to the commander from a source independent of the restricted reporting avenues, or to law enforcement from other sources, the commander will report the matter to law enforcement and law enforcement remains authorized to initiate its own independent investigation of the matter presented. Additionally, a victim’s disclosure of his/her sexual assault to persons outside the protective sphere of the persons covered by this policy may result in an investigation of the allegations.	AR 600-20 Appendix H-5(e)
Navy	(1) A victim’s communication with another person (e.g., roommate, friend, family member) does not, in and of itself prevent the victim from later electing to make a Restricted Report. Restricted Reporting is confidential, not anonymous,	SECNAVINST 1752.4B, Encl 4(e)

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Marines	<p>A Restricted Report is available only when a victim makes a written election of Restricted Report option to a person granted confidentiality under this Order or by statute, including SARCs, UVAs/VAs, and healthcare personnel. Disclosure of a sexual assault incident to others, with the exception of chaplains, may eliminate the restricted reporting option.</p>	MCO 1752.5B Encl 1, Ch 1(b)
Coast Guard	<p>If the victim has disclosed his or her sexual assault to anyone other than an EAPC/SARC, FAS, VA, HCP, or Chaplain, the report is Unrestricted.</p>	COMDTINST M1754.10D ¶(c)(2)(b)