

Response Systems Panel
Victim Services Subcommittee
Minutes of March 13, 2014, Meeting

The Response Systems to Adult Sexual Assault Crimes Panel (RSP) is a federal advisory committee within the Department of Defense (DoD) operating pursuant to Section 576(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013, the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the Government in Sunshine Act of 1976, and governing federal regulations. The Victim Services Subcommittee (VSS) of the RSP held a meeting at the RSP Office (875 N. Randolph, Arlington, VA) by teleconference on April 18, 2014. The purpose of the subcommittee meeting was to continue deliberations on the Victim Services Subcommittee report. The subcommittee meeting began at 10:00 a.m. and concluded at 1:06 p.m. A copy of the transcript is hereby incorporated by reference.

Participating VSS Subcommittee Members:

Ms. Mai Fernandez, Chair
The Honorable Barbara Jones, RSP Chair
The Honorable Christel Marquardt (by telephone)
The Honorable Elizabeth Holtzman
Dean Michelle Anderson (by telephone)
Ms. Meg Garvin (by telephone)
Mr. William Cassara
Dean Lisa Schenck

Participating RSP Staff Members:

Colonel Patricia Ham, RSP Staff Director
Ms. Terri Saunders, RSP Deputy Staff Director
Commander Sherry King, VSS Branch Chief
Ms. Julie Carson, RSP Staff Attorney
Ms. Kristin McGrory, RSP Staff Attorney
Ms. Rachel Landsee, RSP Staff Attorney
Mr. Dillon Fishman, RSP Staff Attorney

Others Present:

Mr. William Sprance, Designated Federal Official (DFO)

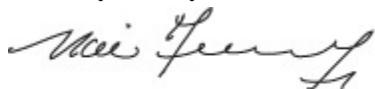
After the DFO opened the meeting, the Subcommittee members heard testimony from a panel of sexual assault survivors, who were each accompanied by a Special Victim Counsel, a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, or another individual. Before the testimony commenced, Ms. Terri Saunders provided a brief introduction and a brief discussion of the parameters of the

testimony. She reminded the Subcommittee members that the victim/survivors were present to talk about what happened after their assault, and the support they received after the sexual assault report and during any court martial proceedings that might have taken place as a result of the incident. The witnesses were not present to discuss the details of their sexual assault, but the witnesses would not be prohibited from discussing these details if they wished. She explained that the victim/survivors would be identified by their initials, and while their branch of service would be identified, the base where they stationed or where the incident occurred would not be identified on the record. Each of the victim/survivors spoke about their experiences, and then answered questions from the subcommittee members.

The afternoon session began by the Subcommittee members having a discussion on issues relating to those encountered by the speakers from the morning session. The Subcommittee members then discussed victim services, including the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program and victim service personnel. Following that discussion, Subcommittee members moved on to a discussion of making a possible recommendation regarding whether a sexual assault report which becomes unrestricted could or should be converted to a restricted report if the victim desires. Subcommittee members then moved on to a discussion of the adequacy of mental health services in the military for sexual assault victims.

The members then discussed the dates and locations of future meetings to be scheduled for April and May prior to completion of the Victim Services report. The DFO closed the meeting at 5:27 P.M.

I hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.



Mai Fernandez
Chair, Victim Services Subcommittee
Response Systems to Adult Sexual Assault Crimes Panel