

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 other appropriate federal regulations. The Comparative Systems Subcommittee (CSS) held a meeting on November 19, 2013, to receive an overview of responses, training, procedures, and investigative systems external to and within the Department of Defense regarding sexual assault. The meeting began at 8:42 a.m. and concluded at 5:25 p.m. at the RSP office at 875 N. Randolph St, Arlington, VA 22203. The transcript of the November 19, 2013 proceedings is incorporated herein by reference.

Participating CSS Members:

Brigadier General (ret.) Malinda Dunn, Acting Chair
Brigadier General (ret.) John Cooke
Colonel (ret.) Larry Morris
Colonel (ret.) Stephen Henley
Colonel (ret.) Dawn Scholz
Mr. Russ Strand
The Honorable Barbara Jones (by phone)
Ms. Rhonni Jaus

Participating Response Systems Panel Staff Members:

Colonel Patricia Ham, RSP Staff Director
Ms. Janice Chayt, RSP Staff Member
Mr. Dillon Fishman, RSP Staff Member

Presenters:

Mr. Scott Russell, Director of the Violent Crime Division, DoD Inspector General (DoD IG)
Mr. Guy Surian, HQ, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command
Ms. Donna Ferguson, U.S. Army Military Police School
Mr. Kevin Poorman, Office of Special Investigations, U.S. Air Force, Quantico Headquarters
Mr. Robert Vance, Programs and Policy, Naval Criminal Investigative Service
Chief Warrant Officer Five Shannon Wilson, Marine Corps Investigator
MAC Amy Pearson, Naval Investigator
Commander Kristie Robson, Department Head of Clinical Programs and Sexual Assault Medical
Program Manager, US Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
Colonel Todd Poindexter, Chief of Clinical Operations, Air Force Medical Support Agency,
Office of The Surgeon General
Ms. Carol Haig, Army Sexual Assault Clinical Provider, Office of the Surgeon General
Major Gwendolyn Foster, SAFE, Air Force
Dr. Sue Rotolo, Ph.D., SANE, Inova Fairfax Hospital
Major Martin Bartness, Baltimore City Police Department

Detective Lanis Geluso, Virginia Beach Police Department
Lieutenant Joe Carter, Falls Church City Police Department
Detective Missy Elliott, Falls Church City Police Department
Lieutenant Paul Thompson, Assistant Commander, Major Crimes Division, Fairfax County
Police Department
Lieutenant Mark Kidd, Fairfax County Police Department
Detective Stephen Wallace, Fairfax County Police Department
Detective Greg Sloan, Arlington Police Department

Other Participants:

Ms. Maria Fried, Designated Federal Official
Mr. William Sprance, Alternate Designated Federal Official

Introductory Remarks

After, Ms. Fried opened the meeting, she discussed Federal Advisory Committee Act requirements. Dean Hillman made opening remarks.

Assessing Military Investigations

Mr. Scott Russell discussed the role of his DoD IG unit, which provides investigative oversight of the military criminal investigative organizations (MCIOs). In 2012, two major evaluations were completed. The first evaluation examined the Services' sexual assault investigative training at the basic agent level and advanced training and the second evaluation focused on sexual assault investigations which included a review of a random sample of closed cases.

Overview of MP/SP/MCIO Training and Response to Sexual Assault Reports

Representatives from the Army Military Police School (USAMPS) and Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID), Air Force Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Navy Criminal Investigation Service (NCIS), Marine Corps CID, and the Navy Master at Arms Program provided an overview of each service's training, protocols, and procedures to respond to sexual assault reports.

Recap of Visit to Crime Labs in GA:

During lunch, Mr. Strand gave an overview of the site visits to the Defense Forensic Science Center (DFSC) and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) Crime Lab.

Panel of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners and Medical Providers

Commander Kristie Robson stated that in May 2013, the Navy Surgeon General established a sexual assault forensic exam program so that the Navy will have the capability to provide forensic exam capability around the globe. 852 sexual assault forensic examiner (SAFE)

providers have been trained for the Navy. These examiners can be physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, or independent corpsmen.

Colonel Todd Poindexter stated that the Air Force has a program similar to the Navy's. The Air Force does not perform SAFE exams at all of its locations. Some facilities use memorandums of understanding (MOU) with civilian medical facilities to perform SAFE exams for their patients. There are 12 Air Force facilities that perform SAFE exams, and they are mostly overseas.

The Air Force, Navy, and Army representatives spoke about difficulties with requiring patients to travel to a civilian facility, which could be some distance from them. The Service representatives also discussed the challenges associated with doing these exams on deployment and on ships.

Dr. Sue Rotolo, a sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) with Inova Fairfax Hospital, spoke about civilian SANE programs. INOVA Hospital does approximately 700 exams a year and maintains MOUs with Fort Belvoir, Fort Myer, and Henderson Hall. It also handles forensic examinations for all of northern Virginia. Dr. Rotolo explained that since they are the regional providers, civilians who are sexually assaulted travel to them, just as military often needs to travel to a SAFE/SANE provider. Fort Belvoir has a fully equipped women's center and a SANE will travel there when available.

Ms. Carol Haig explained that every medical treatment facility in the Army has a sexual assault medical management program that works closely with the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator and Victim Advocates to ensure comprehensive and coordinated care. A critical component of this program is the sexual assault medical forensic examiner (SAMFE). The SAMFE is a health care provider specifically trained to conduct a sexual assault forensic examination.

Civilian Police Investigator Panel

Major Martin Bartness stated that the Baltimore City Police Department has 15-21 detectives, three sergeants, and a lieutenant assigned to adult sex crimes, for a city of about 610,000 people. He stated that Baltimore made substantial changes since 2011, after it was widely reported that the handling of sexual assault reports in Baltimore was "atrocious, with some of the most egregious treatment of victims occurring at the hands of the detectives." New leadership and external trainers from across the country were brought in to teach best practices.

Detective Lanis Geluso stated that the Virginia Beach Police Department has a Special Victims Unit (SVU). She also discussed training, the victim advocates with whom they work, the Commonwealth Attorney's advocates, and how they respond.

Lieutenant Joe Carter discussed the size of his small jurisdiction in Falls Church, VA, and their Rape Aggression Defense program, a multi-jurisdictional program to teach women how to be safe and what to do if they become a victim.

Lieutenant Paul Thompson, Fairfax County Police Department, explained that he represents the largest police department in Virginia. They have an adult sex crimes unit with nine detectives. They also have a victim services unit, which is part of the police department.

Detective Stephen Wallace, also from the Fairfax County Police Department, discussed his interaction with SANEs, their use of victim advocates, and general procedures in the department. He spoke about cooperation with all of the other local agencies.

Detective Greg Sloan from the Arlington Police Department said that their Special Victims Unit was very similar to Virginia Beach's. They have anonymous reporting and use the SANE at Fairfax hospital. They also have a lot of alcohol related cases like Fairfax, due to colleges in their jurisdiction and trendy areas like Clarendon.

The panelists all discussed the training for their police officers and detectives. In each police academy there is at least some time dedicated to responding to incidents involving sexual assault victims.

The subcommittee adjourned at 5:25 PM.

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



Malinda Dunn
Acting Chair
Comparative Systems Subcommittee
Response Systems to Adult Sexual Assault Crimes Panel

Attachments:

Documents Provided Prior to the Meeting

1. DODIG Report 2013-043, Evaluation of the military Criminal Investigative Organizations' Sexual Assault Investigation Training
2. DODIG Report 2013-091, Evaluation of the Military Criminal Investigative Organizations Sexual Assault Investigations
3. Police Executive Research Foundation (2013) Critical Issues in Policing Series: Improving the Police Response to Sexual Assault

4. Baltimore City Sexual Assault Response Team Annual Report (2011)
5. Tasca, M., Rodriquez, N. Spohn, C., & Koss, M.P. (2012). Police Decision making in sexual assault cases: predictors of suspect identification and arrest. Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 28(6), 1157-1177.

Agenda

Biographies of Speakers

- Ms. Donna Ferguson
- Ms. Carol L. Haig
- CDR Kristie Robson
- Major Gwendolyn A. Foster
- Mr. Guy Surian
- Mr. Kevin Poorman

Presentations and Statements

MCIOs

- MCIO Brief
- CID Brief
- USAMPS Brief
- SVUIC Info Paper
- NCIS Brief
- AFOSI Brief
- USMC Brief

Medical/SANE

- Navy Adult Sexual Assault Victim Care Protocol
- Sexual Assault Checklist
- BUMED 6310 11A
- Civilian Best Practices-Dr. Rotolo
- Army SANE Program

VA Beach PD Sexual Assault Investigations