

Response Systems Panel
Victim Services Subcommittee
Minutes of April 25, 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 25, 2014. The purpose of the subcommittee meeting was to continue deliberations on the Victim Services Subcommittee report. The subcommittee meeting began at 9:00 a.m. and concluded at 10:23 a.m. A copy of the transcript is hereby incorporated by reference.

Participating VSS Subcommittee Members:

Ms. Mai Fernandez, Chair

The Honorable Elizabeth Holtzman

Dean Michelle Anderson

Ms. Meg Garvin

Mr. William Cassara

Dean Lisa Schenck

Participating RSP Staff Members:

Colonel Patricia Ham, RSP Staff Director

Commander Sherry King, VSS Branch Chief

Others Present:


William Sprance, Designated Federal Official (DFO)

After the DFO opened the meeting, Ms. Fernandez led the Subcommittee members in a discussion of potential language for recommendations. Subcommittee members discussed how military police and MCIO agents advise individuals of their rights, the role of special victim counsel, victim interviews, unsworn victim statements, collateral misconduct and victim rights. The members adopted, deleted, and modified findings and recommendations. Subcommittee members discussed Mr. Cassara's written views concerning the issue of unsworn victim impact statements.

Dean Anderson stated that she would write a dissenting opinion concerning collateral misconduct and that other Subcommittee members could to join her dissent. She said she would provide the statement to CDR King for distribution.

The members then thanked each other and the staff for their hard work and then closed the meeting. The DFO closed the meeting at 10:23 A.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