



Adjusting Our Aim Bridge Building Meeting Challenges

The ABCs of Working With Military and Veteran Survivors

Presented by Sarah Sullivan and Stacy Johnson



Let's get to know our audience a bit

Acronym Test (for fun!):

UCMJ Uniform Code of Military Justice

SHARP Sexual Harassment Assault Response and Prevention

SARC Sexual Assault Response Coordinator

VA Victim Advocate

PCS Permanent Change of Station

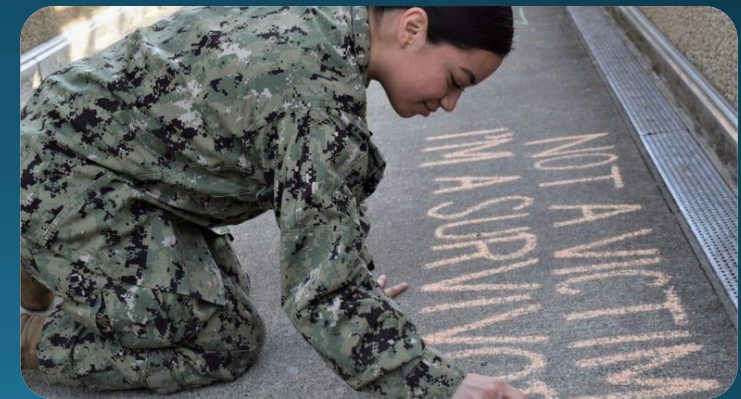
ETS Expiration of Time in Service

SVC Special Victim Counsel

MST Military Sexual Trauma

Adjusting Aim

- Servicemembers held under Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)
- Fear of retaliation from offender, unit, and/or Command
- Witnesses, victim, offender PCSing/ETSing, or transferring to another unit
- Isolated from support of family and friends
- Command rules almost every aspect of your life

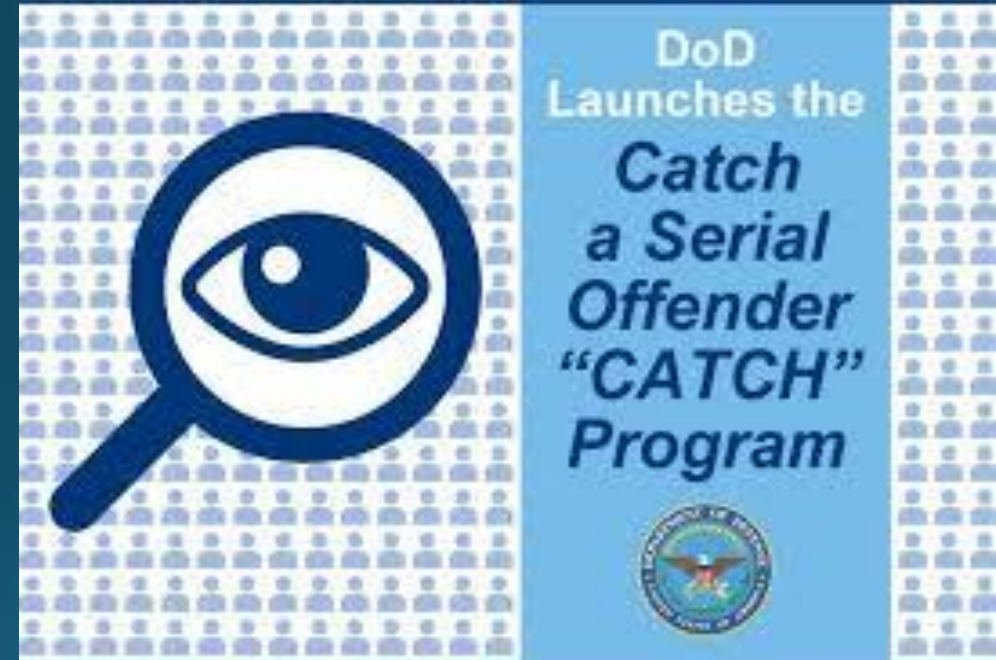


Combat Challenges

- Higher rank oversees sexual assault cases (from O-3 to O-6)
- Reporting options (restricted and unrestricted)
- Extended statute of limitations
- Option of expedited transfer
- Special Victims Counsel (SVC)
- Changes to report retaliation
- Creation of DSAID
- Creation of DoD Safe Helpline and WeCare Apps
- Creation of Social Media Policies and UCMJ punishments
- CATCH Program

CATCH Program

- Survivors can keep restricted report and notify a third party investigator of details of assault
- Investigator reviews other cases that have similar details
- If there is a match then the victim is notified through the SARC/VA and can chose if they want to change report
- As of April, 5 matches have been found with CATCH and 239 victims chose to participate in it.



Building Bridges



Challenges

- Often times military SARCs transfer out of unit within 2-3 years and may not have established relationship with local rape crisis center
- May not know all options military members have
- Knowing if a client is affiliated with the military (including Veterans)

Possible solutions

- Putting MOU/ MOA in place helps to establish longer term relationship with units
- By establishing relationship can provide dual advocacy
- Add question to intake form asking about military affiliation

References

- DoDI 6495.02
- AR 600-20
- FY19 DoD SAPRO Annual Report
- ALARACT 058 2018 Professionalization of Online Conduct

Questions?

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