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## A Considerable Service: An Advocate's Introduction to Domestic Violence and the Military

by Christine Hansen, Executive Director, The Miles Foundation © 2001

This article provides information about domestic violence in a special population, the military community. The article outlines the ways in which advocates can assist victims with safety, protection, rights, restitution, transition and accountability. The military community operates very differently from civilian ones, with its own laws, regulations and practices. Some aspects are standardized across all branches of the service, others are specific to only one or two branches. All use an enormous amount of jargon, acronyms and abbreviations (e.g., JAG for Judge Advocate General or NJP for non-judicial punishment). In practice, the Command has enormous influence on how seriously domestic violence will be treated on his/her base, and how much pressure will be placed on an abuser.

**Editor's Note:** *A good Command can help an abused woman enormously. Alas, however, good Commands are rare. But even bad Commands will sometimes help out just to get rid of a problem. An abuser in the military understands that his superiors can assign him to unpleasant duty or locations, or otherwise make his life miserable.*

### Case Example

Ellen (pseudonym) married her college sweetheart, an officer serving in the United States Armed Forces. The family albums show a radiant bride, a handsome military officer, a growing family and a variety of duty stations. The nightmare of domestic violence is also memorialized in the albums. The photographs, vivid and unfaltering, highlight multiple bruises to buttocks, legs, back and shoulders. The photographs depict an assault in which Ellen was dragged through her home while her husband kicked her

repeatedly with steel-toed combat boots. Her husband's decision to cancel dinner guests preceded the assault.

The children called local law enforcement to their off-base residence. The alleged suspect, dressed in his uniform, greeted sheriff's deputies. The deputies interviewed the alleged suspect in the entry hall. The deputies discussed the medals, awards and commendations adorning the walls. No interview was conducted of the victim. No action was taken by local law enforcement.

Ellen sought medical treatment at the military hospital the following day. Nursing staff notified the military police department of a Domestic Disturbance/Assault (off station) which had occurred at an unknown time. The hospital staff noted the reluctance of the victim to give any information regarding the incident for fear that revealing details would harm her husband's career. Photographs were recorded by military crash investigators.

The alleged suspect was processed by the military police, read his rights, but declined to provide a statement concerning the incident. The Command issued a military protective order. The order was violated when the alleged suspect broke into the home during his wife's hospitalization.

The officer was deployed within two days of the assault. The officer participated in a mission to safeguard victims of ethnic violence in their homeland. The officer was decorated for his courage, valor and honor.

The Case Review Committee substantiated spousal abuse. The officer was categorized as a level III offender. The treatment plan included an alcohol evaluation and participation in a level III Domestic

Violence Men's Group following a six-month deployment.

The recommendations of the Family Advocacy Program and Case Review Committee were not evaluated by the Command. Commanders did not order evaluation, attendance or monitor progress. Disciplinary action was not considered by the Command relative to the violation of a direct and lawful order, i.e., Military Protective Order (MPO).

A change of duty station occurred following the officer's return from deployment. Records and details of the incident, findings and recommendations were not forwarded to the new Command. Ellen received a divorce and was awarded custody of the children by a state court. The court granted limited visitation. Custodial interference by the father was recently alleged.

**Service Leaves Women Vulnerable to Abuse.** This domestic violence incident might be considered an isolated occurrence. However, a mounting body of evidence indicates that the military has serious domestic violence problems. Women associated with the military are particularly vulnerable due to geographical isolation from family and friends, social isolation within the military culture, residential mobility, financial insecurity and fear of adverse career impact. (Caliber Associates, *The Final Report on the Study of Spousal Abuse in the Armed Forces*, Department of Defense: Washington, DC, 1996, at p. 25; Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel, *Abuse Victims Study Final Report*, Department of Defense: Washington, DC, 1994, at 9-10; Madeline Morris, "By Force of Arms: Rape, War and Military Culture," 45 Duke L.J. 651, at FN 251 (1996); and William Cohen, *The Liv-*

ing Room War, Congressional Record: Senate, May 19, 1994, at S5983.) Abused women are often fearful of reporting incidents due to the lack of confidentiality and privacy; limited victim services; and the lack of adequate training and assistance available from Command, military police, family advocacy programs, medical corps and military justice trial counsel. (Undersecretary, *supra*, at 9; Caliber Associates, *supra*, at 12-13).

The problem is more acute due to an amendment to the Gun Control Act of 1968, Domestic Violence Offender Gun Ban, which specifies that military personnel who are domestic abusers must be banned from possessing firearms.

### Incidence and Prevalence

A substantial percentage of military families and partners are at risk for domestic violence. One in three military spouses were identified as victims of domestic violence in a comparative study of the Army to the 1985 National Family Violence Survey (Mark Thompson, "The Living Room War," *Time*, May 23, 1994, at 48; Cohen, *supra*). The military rate of domestic violence was determined to be three times higher than civilian rates (Thompson, *id*; Cohen, *id*; "Battered the Truth," *Washington Times*, February 4, 1999, at OpEd). A reanalysis of data and demographics concluded that the military rate was twice as high.

The rates were comparable for mild to moderate forms of domestic violence. However, the military has much higher rates for severe physical aggression (Richard Heymann and Peter Neidig, "A Comparison of Spousal Aggression Prevalence Rates in U.S. Army and Civilian Representative Samples," 67 *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 239-42, N2 (1999)). A study of the Presidio army base found that 53.3% of its engineers—a group not trained to be particularly violent—perpetrated severe physical domestic violence, with 23% of them using weapons while doing so (David Freedman, "Domestic Violence Pervasive at Presidio Army Base," *The Objector*, July-Aug. 1991, at 16). Furthermore, studies have found that the seriousness of the violence by military men against their wives is much greater than that by civilian men. For

example, military men were four times as likely to choke their wives into unconsciousness or leave them with bruised windpipes and neck muscles (Anson Shupe et al., *Violent Couples* 76-77 (1987)).

"The War At Home" produced by "60 Minutes" analyzed Pentagon records from 1992 through 1996, revealing that the level of domestic violence was five times higher than in the civilian population (Michael Radutsky and Trevor Nelson, Producers, Ed Bradley, Reporter, "The War At Home," 60 Minutes, CBS News, January 17, 1999). The program also concluded that the military routinely failed to punish service members for domestic abuse.

The first study of intimate partner violence among single soldiers found a considerable level of violence between single male soldiers and their partners. The severity of the violence was significantly higher, including assaults with intent to do bodily harm and the use of weapons (Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, "Intimate Partner Violence Among U.S. Army Soldiers in an Arctic Environment: Relationship to Command, Climate, Personal Background and Season Influences," at 11-12, Unpublished Manuscript, June 1999; Karen Jowers, "In Survey, More Than 95% of Singles Admit to Abuse," *Army Times*, p. 24, June 28, 1999).

The Department of Defense contends that a comparative analysis of prevalence data between the military community and civilian society is inappropriate. Generally, the Department cites the differences in study designs; the demographics of the military; and the lack of information relative to intimate partner victimization by single service members (Department of Defense, *Spouse Abuse in Military Families*, Washington, DC: Department of Defense, September 1998; Caliber Associates, *supra*, at 10-12).

Defense Department estimates suggest that domestic violence in the military rose from 18.6 per 1000 wives in 1990 to 25.6 per 1000 in 1996. The Air Force and Navy rates were 19 per 1000 for the same period. The Army and Marine Corps rates were 21 per 1000. On average, each fiscal year from 1990 to 1996, 23.2 per 1000 spouses of military personnel experienced violent victimization (Department of Defense, *FY 90-97 Spouse Maltreatment: Fam-*

*ily Advocacy Program Data*, 1998, Washington, DC: Department of Defense (hereinafter cited as FY 90-97); Stephen J. Brannen and Elwood Hamlin II, "Understanding Spouse Abuse in Military Families," in *The Military Family: A Practice Guide of Human Service Providers*, James Martin and Leora Rosen, Eds., Praeger, 2000). There was a decrease in the number of substantiated incidents of spouse abuse in the military from 1997 through 1999, while the percent of incidents rated moderate to severe actually increased (FY 90-97; "Substantiated Incidents of Spouse Abuse," Family Advocacy Program Presentation, Department of Defense, 2000).

The victim of domestic violence associated with the military is predominantly the female, civilian spouse of active duty personnel. The spouse abuse victims normally have children and more than half have been married two years or less. Fifty-two percent of the victims live off the installation and 47% reside on the base/post. These demographics represent victims seeking services from military programs.

The Department of Defense has not standardized data in its Central Registry although common report forms are utilized by the Services. Reporting practices lack uniform interpretation and implementation among the Services and across the installations, according to studies commissioned by the Department (Undersecretary at 36-37; Caliber Associates at 8 and 67-68). Media reports have also questioned the accuracy as well as historical perspective associated with the Central Registry ("The War At Home," *Army Times Publishing Company*). The reports also noted that recidivism and reoffense data are unreliable.

### The Military Response: Policy and Practice

**Zero Tolerance Policy.** A zero tolerance policy towards violence against women—including domestic violence, sexual assault and sexual harassment—has been announced by the Department of Defense. Violence against women is not to be condoned or tolerated. Unfortunately, the message has not been clear and consistent throughout the armed forces.

The term "spousal abuse" refers to assault, battery, threat to injure or kill,

other acts of force or violence, and emotional maltreatment committed by one spouse against another. The definition does not refer to violence between unmarried partners, and differs substantially from the standards of domestic violence contained in state and Federal statutes. Commands, subordinate co-workers, health care providers and other professionals may not have a clear definition of domestic violence.

**Editor's Note:** *Because the military does not recognize domestic violence unless it occurs between legally married spouses, a victim of intimate partner violence who is dating or even engaged to her abuser will not be assisted in this process. Certainly a victim in same-sex abusive relationships, given the military's "Don't ask, don't tell" policy, will receive no assistance.*

**Family Advocacy Program (FAP).** The Department of Defense has issued an administrative directive to establish policy and programs to address domestic violence and child maltreatment (DD 6400.1). The Department is mandated to establish policy and practices for prevention, response, intervention and treatment of domestic violence. The Services (Marine Corps, Navy, Army, Air Force) have established practices and programs, collectively referred to as the Family Advocacy Program (FAP), for prevention, investigation, assessment, treatment and monitoring of spouse abuse and child maltreatment specific to each service.

The FAP is responsible for ensuring victim safety and access to support and advocacy services, as well as for ensuring that abusers receive appropriate intervention services. Essentially, FAP is required to handle the cases from receipt of the initial report of abuse through case closure.

Victims will be presented with a waiver of privacy and confidentiality as a condition to receiving services. Victims should be advised as to the ramifications of such a waiver and, generally, of the limitations of confidentiality between a counselor and Command representatives. Safety issues may arise in the event Command representative provide information to the alleged perpetrator.

Normally, a FAP counselor will schedule an appointment with the alleged victim and offender to obtain information

about the incident and history of abuse in the relationship. Victims should be advised beforehand of the presence of an alleged perpetrator.

The responsibility for the FAP rests with the Commander or his/her designated Family Advocacy Program Officer. A coordinated approach at several levels, among the Services; between the Services and civilian agencies; and between FAP and similar medical and/or social programs is encouraged.

**Victim Advocates.** Victim advocates (VA/VSS) provide a mechanism to aid victims in accessing and navigating a complex military legal and social service system. Victim advocates have not been assigned to all military installations. Generally, victim advocates are assigned to the Family Advocacy Program. However, the Air Force has assigned victim advocates to the judge advocate general office. Current military practices require client referral from a social worker or FAP counselor.

#### **Chaplains, Provost Marshals, Military Criminal Investigative Organizations and Judge Advocate General**

The points of access for a victim of domestic violence to the military system include chaplains, the provost marshal's office or military police, military criminal investigative organizations (NCIS, OSI and CID) and the judge advocate general (JAG)/military justice trial counsel.

**Chaplains.** A victim may initially seek assistance through the chaplain's office due to privacy considerations. The military recognizes the privileged nature of communications between clergy and parishioner. Chaplains receive a year of training in family crisis intervention.

**Editor's Note:** *Only conversations with the chaplain are confidential; conversations with therapists and others who are protected by confidentiality in the civilian world are not confidential in the military. This is why most domestic violence victims seek services at civilian domestic violence programs rather than through the military.*

**Military and Civilian Police.** If an incident occurs on base/post, the military police may be engaged. Military police may conduct an investigation into an incident upon notification by medical

staff, a judge advocate general and/or Command.

If a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) exists between the military installation and civilian law enforcement, the provost marshal's office (PMO) will be notified of an incident occurring off base/post. Local law enforcement may provide information relative to charges and/or arrest of a military service member. The rights of an alleged offender and victim should not be violated during an investigation.

The military criminal investigative organizations (MCIOS) are the military departments' trained investigative components. MCIOS conduct investigations into criminal activity, including fraud, and provide security and protective services for the armed forces. The MCIOS include Army Criminal Investigative Command (CID), Naval Criminal Investigative Services (NCIS), Air Force Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Marine Corps Criminal Investigative Division (USMC CID) and Defense Criminal Investigative Services (DCIS). The criminal investigations follow common investigative procedures such as interviewing victims and/or witnesses, interrogating suspects, detailing crime scenes, and collecting physical evidence.

**Judge Advocate General (JAG).** The judge advocate general may conduct an investigation into an incident of domestic abuse. Legal counsel is provided to the Command by the JAG office. JAG may advise the Command as to prosecution of a service member. Military justice trial counsel will furnish both prosecuting and defense counsel during a court-martial.

**Case Review Committee (CRC).** The case review committee determines if abuse has occurred. The panel consists primarily of military personnel and civilian service providers, including a Command representative. The FAP counselor and victim advocate present evidence to the panel. The Command will also provide input during the proceeding.

The CRC will either substantiate the case or not. A "substantiated case" is one in which the "preponderance of available information indicates that abuse has occurred." Generally, low level cases and cases defined as "he said, she said" do not meet the standard.

The CRC will issue recommendations for treatment of the alleged offender and services for the victim. Generally, the recommendations entail anger management, stress reduction, alcohol treatment and a batterer's group therapy. Couples counseling is also among the recommendations within some services, though such counseling may endanger the victim.

### Command

The Command, who may not always be identified as the base/post Commander, is responsible for the service member, his/her training and his/her welfare. Commanders are well educated, highly trained and skilled in military protocols, combat tactics and assignment of men and machinery. However, Commanders receive limited training and introduction to FAPs.

The recommendations of the CRC are forwarded to the Command for review and implementation. The Command has complete discretion on whether to concur, veto, alter, or delay the recommendations, including treatment of the service member, and whether to issue a military protective order. The Command can order the service member to participate in an evaluation as well as treatment, but has little authority over a civilian spouse, except to bar him from the base. In general, the Command will address incidents of domestic violence administratively, although the Command also has discretion to court martial the service member and, if so, will serve as the convening authority during court martial. (The Command's discretion is similar to prosecutorial and/or judicial discretion. The immediate supervisor of the service member/alleged perpetrator is often the person who negotiates with the Command.)

### Protective Orders and Full Faith and Credit

A victim of domestic violence (especially a women service member abused by a civilian spouse) needs protection both on and off base, which means getting orders from both the Command and the state court. The military order may not protect her off base nor result in an arrest if her abuser violates it. Similarly, her court order will not protect her when she is on base.

#### Military Protective Orders (MPOs).

MPOs are issued by Commanders to preserve good order and discipline. MPOs may direct service members to stay away from victims or designated places; refrain from contact with victims; refrain from doing certain things; require a service member to move into government quarters; and provide support to family members. Its terms may permit contact in the presence of the Command or a Command representative. Violation of the order subjects the service member to the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) at the discretion of the Command.

MPOs are issued for indeterminate periods and are subject to review at the discretion of the Command. Ex parte orders do not normally exceed ten days. If a longer period of time is necessary, a Commander may interview the couple. The MPO process is administrative rather than judicial.

Civilian abusers cannot be subject to MPOs, but rather may only be subject to a civil protection/restraining order issued by a state or tribal court. However, the Command may issue a "disbarment" order to deny the civilian abuser access to the installation.

**Full Faith and Credit.** The Full Faith and Credit provisions of the Violence Against Women Act do not apply to military protective orders for several reasons. First, a military installation is not included in the definition of state, territory or tribal lands. Furthermore, the abuser is not afforded due process; there is no requirement of reasonable notice and a hearing before a MPO is issued. Finally, MPOs are not court orders, but rather administrative orders initiated and issued by the service member's Command.

The enforcement of a MPO is exclusively the military's responsibility. Furthermore, civilian law enforcement is prohibited from enforcing the order. Local police may notify military police of an incident occurring off base involving a service member based upon a Memorandum of Understanding/Agreement (MOU).

The violation of a military protection order constitutes the violation of a direct and lawful order and subjects the service member, at the discretion of the Command, to prosecution under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Military police

notify the Command of violations. However, apprehension and arrest are not mandated. The Command may confine the service member to quarters, impose sanctions and/or non-judicial punishment.

**Civil Protection Orders.** The enforcement of civilian protection/restraining orders by the military is not mandated. The Full Faith and Credit provisions of the Violence Against Women Act do not apply to military installations. Military installations are not states, territories or tribal lands as defined in the statute.

Service and apprehension of a service member/alleged offender is dependent upon the relationship between local law enforcement and military commands. For example, the military may not facilitate service on the installation. Service may be postponed until the service member is physically off the installation. Notification procedures, memorandums of understanding and a coordinated community response may enhance service and enforcement of civilian orders of protection.

The Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act may be employed by active duty service members to avoid court proceedings, such as hearings associated with restraining orders, for up to a year. The soldier, sailor, marine or airmen may postpone responding to civil suits filed in states beyond the installation or during deployment.

A victim associated with the military should be advised to obtain a military protective order as well as a civil protective/restraining order in order to provide sufficiently for safety and enforcement.

### Discipline, Punishment and Sanctions

The Command is responsible for disciplinary actions, punishment, sanctions, court martial and incarceration of an active duty offender. The Command may exercise his/her discretion in applying discipline and punishment. Commanders can order service members into treatment programs, administer non-judicial punishment, administratively separate the abuser from the service, or prosecute the abuser under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The majority of spouse abuse cases are handled by administrative means rather than criminal proceedings by the service

branches. Rarely, misdemeanor incidents and assaults result in prosecution and incarceration. Felony assaults often result in non-judicial punishment. Non-judicial punishment may entail demotion in rank, loss of pay, duty and extra work assignments.

The Command may issue non-judicial punishment (NJP). An Article 15 in the Army or Captain's Mast in the Navy are NJPs that result in a written reprimand within the record of the service member. Offenders may be kept on active duty if they can be rehabilitated.

**Editor's Note:** *The military makes many of its decisions based on its financial investment, job description and rank of the service member, as well as any prior disciplinary or work-related problems. Thus, the military is far more likely to discharge someone early in basic training—but unless the record is very bad—very reluctant to do so after basic training. Obviously, the severity and number of incidents are factored into the decision. Do not, however, expect the military to treat domestic violence perpetrators harshly, particularly experienced service members with otherwise adequate military records. For instance, unless he is convicted of a felony, the military will not want to discharge a wife beating submariner who cost the military over a million dollars to train for his nuclear powered submarine duty, regardless of his rank.*

Five to six percent of the incidents of domestic violence are categorized as severe, warranting prosecution under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The charges or specifications may include violation of a direct and lawful order, assault and battery, and rape. The Uniform Code of Military Justice does not contain a specific charge associated with domestic violence. The JAG/military justice trial counsel may advise the Command as to prosecution and specifications under the UCMJ. The court-martial process is commenced with an Article 32 hearing, which is a grand jury style proceeding to determine whether enough evidence exists for a court-martial.

The prosecuting attorney will be chosen from the JAG Corps serving on the installation. The JAG Corps may also provide defense counsel to the offender, or the offender may instead select civilian counsel (at his expense). The Command will serve as convening authority, select the jury and conduct the trial.

**Editor's Note:** *It has been said that "military justice is to justice as military music is to music." Military justice is certainly unique, with the Command in charge of the entire process, and with attorneys from the JAG office serving as both prosecutor and defense attorney.*

Victims and witnesses may present testimony. A victim should be advised as to her rights during the proceedings, sentencing and incarceration, including her right to notification of clemency and/or parole hearings.

Partial or full forfeiture of pay must be specified by the court-martial and depends on the type of sentence issued by the court. A special court-martial may not order forfeiture of more than two-thirds pay whereas a general court-martial may order total forfeiture. Slightly different punishments are imposed on officers; they may be dismissed rather than discharged.

### Firearms Possession and Domestic Violence Offender Gun Ban

The Domestic Violence Offender Gun Ban, a/k/a the Lautenberg Amendment to Gun Control Act of 1968, specifies that military personnel who are domestic abusers must be banned from possessing firearms. The Defense Department distinguished between convictions prior to and after the passage of the Amendment. Those convicted after its passage in 1996 face possible discharge, reassignment or separation from the service while those convicted prior to its passage do not. A joint working group was established to study legal and personnel issues relative to domestic violence and the gun law and prepare a report including recommendations for a final policy.

However, a "conviction" does not include a summary court martial conviction or imposition of non-judicial punishment (Article 15 or Captain's Mast, UCMJ), or deferred prosecutions or similar alternative dispositions in a civilian court (Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management Policy).

### Adultery

Adultery is a crime under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. However, it is only prosecuted when it interferes with the smooth functioning of a military unit. Commanders are instructed to seek crim-

inal charges only if the behavior disrupts or discredits the Armed Forces. Further, adultery is usually prosecuted only when it accompanies other accusations of criminal wrongdoing. The cases are usually handled as discreetly as possible. When prosecuted, adultery can lead to a bad conduct discharge, with no loss of benefits. Previously, adultery led to a dishonorable discharge and loss of pension and benefits.

### Housing, Household Goods and Relief

Historically, families were evicted from military housing within 48 hours of when a service person was ordered to barracks or court-martial or discharged. However, housing regulations now prevent such speedy evictions, and families may stay in military housing for thirty days. The housing officer is required to provide notice. Extensions can be granted in special circumstances by the Command.

Spouses cannot initiate the shipment of household goods without the soldier's power of attorney. The entitlement stems from the soldier's service. "A general power of attorney is applicable—all you need is a note," according to the Defense Department. However, such a request may further jeopardize the health and safety of a domestic violence victim.

Military relief agencies, such as Army Community Services and Navy Relief, provide loans and grants up to \$2,000. However, a signature is required of the soldier, sailor, marine or airmen, the same one who is abusing the victim.

### Transitional Compensation

The transitional compensation program was established to provide compensation for 12 to 36 months, health care benefits and access to base/post facilities to family members when a service member is administratively discharged or separated by court martial from military service for the abuse of a family member. The program was mandated by Congress in 1993 to encourage victims of family violence to report the abuse and diminish the fear of losing financial support, housing and benefits. The administrative regulations require transcription of court martial proceedings as well as the noting of "dependent abuse" as the reason for

administrative separation. The victim advocate/victim service specialist assigned to the base/post should facilitate the application and required paperwork. The application process normally takes several months, and the current monthly stipend is \$800+ per spouse and \$220+ per child. The convening authority or post/base commander must approve the sentence in a court marital and administrative separation. If the commander changes the sentence or separation order, the family may become ineligible.

If the service member was eligible for retirement pay at the time of separation from the Service due to abuse, the spouse retains eligibility for a share of the former service members' benefits. The Department can pay the spouse the portion for which she is eligible in a divorce, separation or annulment proceeding in lieu of transitional compensation.

### Acknowledgments and Barriers

The Department of Defense has acknowledged multiple barriers to successfully operating programs to curtail domestic violence, including:

- Lack of awareness and understanding in the military community of the signs and dynamics of family violence;
- Lack of awareness and training about available services;
- Inconsistent Command support for Family Advocacy Program recommendations and interventions;
- Operational barriers to victim safety and client participation; and
- Unit deployment schedules interfering with full participation in, and timely completion of, treatment programs by active duty service members (Caliber Associates, at 62-63).

### Coordinated Community Response

Title 10, U.S. Code, Section 2102, authorizes unit commanders to work with other federal, state and local agencies outside the Defense Department. The military is learning to form interagency and interdepartmental partnerships. Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) are encouraged between local law enforcement and military authorities.

### Accountability for Victims

A victim and/or advocate seeking accountability for the system's failure to respond in a timely and appropriate manner is advised to request an Inspector General investigation and/or a Congressional inquiry. Requests for clarification, policy and regulation citations should acknowledge the rank and position of the individuals associated with the case. The requests should follow a concerted effort to address issues at the installation level. For example, CRC decisions may be appealed, either back to the committee or to a review team in the personnel bureau.

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*The Miles Foundation is a private nonprofit organization that provides direct and support services to victims of violence associated with the military; provides professional education and training to military personnel and civilian community-based advocates; conducts research; serves as a resource center for advocates, policymakers, journalists, scholars and students; and ensures that public policy is well-informed and constructive. For copies of its booklet, *Intimate Partner Violence and the Military: A Victim's Handbook*, please contact The Miles Foundation, P.O. Box 423, Newtown, Connecticut 06470-0423, (email) Milesfdn@aol.com or (website) milesfd@yahoo.com. ■*