

National Domestic Violence Hotline

The National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVH) provides a free and confidential resource to those who are abused or to friends and family who are concerned that a loved one is being abused. Hotline services include:

- ✓ Crisis intervention
- ✓ Safety planning
- ✓ Information about domestic violence and referrals to local service providers
- ✓ Direct connection to domestic violence resources available in the caller's area provided by a Hotline advocate, including local military Family Advocacy Programs and victim advocates
- ✓ Assistance in more than 140 different languages

Since 1996, NDVH has answered more than 1.5 million calls from victims, survivors, friends and family members and law enforcement. Hotline advocates are trained in crisis intervention and are able to put callers in touch with more than 4,800 family violence programs nationwide.

The toll-free Hotline is confidential, available 24-hours a day and can be reached from anywhere in the 50 U.S. states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

STOP THE ABUSE

For information about your service's guidance implementing this policy, please speak with a victim advocate or a family advocacy program official.

If you or someone you know is frightened about a relationship, please

MAKE THE CALL

National Domestic Violence
HOTLINE 

1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
1-800-787-3224 TTY For the Deaf,
Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

www.ndvh.org

Facts About Domestic Violence

- *Of the millions of people abused each year, approximately 4 million are American women.*
- *On the average, more than three women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends every day.*
- *37 percent of all women who sought care in hospital emergency rooms for violence-related injuries were injured by a current or former spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend.*



Department of Defense (DoD)

Domestic Violence Reporting Policy

National Domestic Violence
HOTLINE 

1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
1-800-787-3224 TTY For the Deaf

The DoD is committed to ensuring victims of domestic abuse are protected, treated with dignity and respect, and provided support, advocacy and care.

DoD policy also strongly supports effective command awareness and prevention programs as well as law enforcement and criminal justice activities that will maximize accountability and prosecution of perpetrators of domestic abuse.

To achieve these dual objectives, DoD policy prefers that personnel report suspected domestic abuse incidents promptly to activate both victims' services and accountability actions.

However, a requirement that all domestic abuse incidents be reported can represent a barrier for victims hoping to gain access to medical and victim advocacy services without command or law enforcement involvement.

In order to address these competing interests, adult victims of domestic abuse incidents now have two reporting options: unrestricted reporting and restricted reporting.

Unrestricted Reporting

Victims of domestic abuse who want to pursue an official investigation of an incident should use current reporting channels, e.g., chain of command, Family Advocacy Program (FAP), or law enforcement. Upon notification of a reported domestic abuse incident, victim advocacy services and FAP clinical services will be offered to the victim.

Additionally, at the victim's discretion/request, the healthcare provider will conduct any forensic medical examination deemed appropriate. Details regarding the incident will be limited to only those personnel who have a legitimate need to know.

Restricted Reporting

Restricted reporting allows an adult victim of domestic abuse to disclose the details of his or her abuse to specifically identified individuals and receive medical treatment and victim advocacy services without requiring that notice be provided to the victim's or alleged offender's commander or law enforcement.

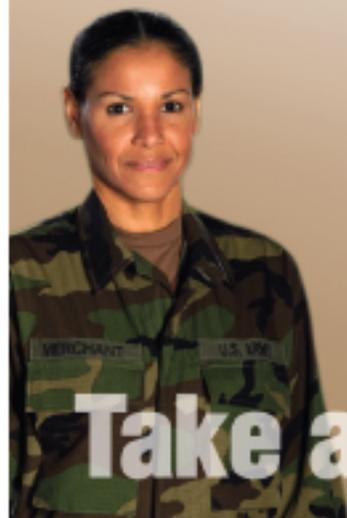
Victims of domestic abuse who desire restricted reporting under this policy must report the abuse to one of the following specified individuals: a victim advocate, a victim advocate supervisor or healthcare provider.

Additionally, a victim's disclosure of his or her domestic abuse to persons other than those covered by this policy may result in an investigation of the allegations by law enforcement and clinical intervention from FAP.

Exceptions to Confidentiality and Restricted Reporting and Limitations on Use

Information regarding a restricted reporting may be disclosed to the following persons or entities for the following reasons:

- Named individuals when disclosure is authorized by the victim in writing.
- Command officials or law enforcement when necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the health or safety of the victim or another person.
- FAP and any other agencies authorized by law to receive reports of child abuse or neglect when, as a result of the victim's disclosure, the victim advocate or healthcare provider has a reasonable belief that child abuse has also occurred. However, disclosure will be limited only to information related to the child abuse.
- Disability Retirement Boards and officials when disclosure by a healthcare provider is required for fitness for duty for disability retirement determinations, limited to only that information which is necessary to process the disability retirement determination.
- Supervisors of the victim advocate or healthcare provider when disclosure is required for the supervision of direct victim treatment or services.
- Military or civilian courts of competent jurisdiction when a military, Federal or State judge issues a subpoena for the covered communications to be presented to the court or to other officials or entities when the judge orders such disclosure; or to other officials or entities when required by Federal or State statute or applicable U. S. international agreement.



Take a Stand



Stop the Abuse