



**UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-4000**

**PERSONNEL AND
READINESS**

**MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
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DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT
DIRECTOR, PROGRAM ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION
DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTOR, FORCE TRANSFORMATION
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES**

**SUBJECT: Domestic Violence Awareness Month – October/National Domestic
Violence Public Awareness Campaign**

As we begin our 2006 observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I call upon leaders at all levels to strengthen their efforts to prevent domestic violence, support victims, and hold abusers accountable as appropriate. Domestic violence will not be tolerated in our military communities. It is criminal, it hurts individuals, ruins families, weakens communities, undermines readiness, and is contrary to the institutional values of the Armed Forces.

In commemorating National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I would like to recount briefly some of the ways in which the Department has strengthened its response to domestic violence through legislation, policy, training, and collaboration (attached fact sheet).

In conjunction with Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I am announcing the launch of a national domestic violence public awareness campaign to prevent domestic violence. The Department of Defense, in partnership with the Family Violence Prevention Fund (FVPPF), developed a national public awareness campaign whose theme is "Take A Stand...Prevent Domestic Violence...Help Stop it Before it Starts."

The campaign is designed as a prevention message to educate Service members and their families about domestic violence and increase awareness of prevention resources. Campaign posters, brochures, resource cards, and stickers are being distributed to each military installation's Family Advocacy Program. Please ensure widest dissemination and use of this campaign material.

Thank you for the variety of commemorative events planned for Domestic Violence Awareness Month and for your inspired efforts to prevent domestic violence, support victims, and hold abusers accountable.



David S. C. Chu

Attachment(s):
As stated

Fact Sheet
Department of Defense Domestic Violence Initiatives

- Updated/revised legislation:
 - Travel and transportation for dependents relocating for reasons of personal safety, transitional compensation, and fatality reviews. These updates are contained in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (Public Law 108-136, Sections 571, 572, 573, 574, and 576).

- Policy
 - The Department has issued policy guidance on a wide range of matters relating to domestic violence (available at www.commanderspage.dod.mil and <http://militaryhomefront.dod.mil>) addressing: Restricted Reporting Policy for Incidents of Domestic Abuse; Implementation of the Domestic Violence Misdemeanor Amendment to the Gun Control Act for Military personnel; Implementation of the Domestic Violence Misdemeanor Amendment to the Gun Control Act for Civilian personnel; Domestic Violence Prosecution Training; Implementation of the Armed Forces Domestic Security Act; Establishing Domestic Violence Memoranda of Understanding between Military and Local Civilian Officials; Domestic Abuse Response and Intervention Training for Commanding Officers and Senior Enlisted Personnel; Domestic Abuse Identification and Assessment Training for Health care Providers; Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Fatality Reviews; Military Protective Orders; Domestic Abuse Training for Chaplains; Establishing Protocols for Law Enforcement and Command Responses to Domestic Violence Involving Military members on Active Duty; Domestic Abuse Victim Advocate Program; and Notification of Department of Defense-Related Fatalities Due to Domestic Violence or Child Abuse.

- Training:
 - During the past three years the Department has conducted 25 domestic violence training conferences addressing its new domestic violence policy initiatives for commanding officers, judge advocates, law enforcement personnel, victim advocates, fatality review team members, chaplains, and health care providers, reaching more than 1,800 military and civilian personnel.

- Collaboration:
 - In collaboration with the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (DoJ, OVW) the Department has launched two military/civilian domestic violence coordinated community response (CCR) demonstration projects with the Army at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky and the Navy in

Jacksonville, Florida. The projects will result in the development of guidelines for military installations on how to establish effective military/civilian responses to domestic violence involving military personnel.

- In collaboration with the DoJ, OVW the Department is participating in the President's Family Justice Center Initiative. These centers bring together police officers, attorneys, counselors, doctors, victims' advocates, chaplains, and others so that domestic violence victims can more easily find the help and support they need. The Department is participating by placing victim advocates in two centers near military installations; Hillsborough County Florida (Tampa) and Bexar County, Texas (San Antonio). These advocates will assist victims affiliated with local military installations.
 - The Department, in collaboration with the Family Violence Prevention Fund and the National Domestic Violence Hotline, launched national public awareness campaigns to educate Service men and women, as well as their dependents, about domestic violence to provide prevention and intervention resources.
- Increased awareness of the National Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-799-SAFE; www.ndvh.org), Military OneSource (1-800-342-9647; www.militaryonesource.com), and the Family Violence Prevention Fund (www.endabuse.org) as resources to assist victims of domestic violence and their families.