

Military OneSource Video — Restricted Reporting

Program title: Family Advocacy Program

Video transcript

Narrator:

What is a restricted report of domestic abuse?

Choosing to report domestic abuse can be difficult. It may feel like you're putting a lot on the line, but knowing what to expect can help.

There are two ways you can report domestic abuse in the military, restricted and unrestricted. This video is about restricted reporting.

If you wanna make a report of domestic abuse, and you want to work through your situation privately, a restricted report could be an option.

In many cases, making a restricted report with the Family Advocacy Program means no law enforcement or command involvement.

You may want to consider a restricted report if you wanna consult with a professional, access medical services, counseling or other support, and keep it private.

You can make a restricted report with an advocate, a family advocacy clinician or a health care provider, with some exceptions.

In some states, health providers are required to report domestic abuse to law enforcement.

It's also important to know that a restricted report may not allow you to access extra safety measures, like protection orders or legal services. Those services require an unrestricted report.

So, who can request a restricted report?

You can request a restricted report if you're a service member or a military spouse.

Are you a partner but not married? You can always reach out to an advocate. But as a civilian, if you choose to make a report, it must be unrestricted.

Here's another thing that's important to know. If you are risk of imminent harm or a child has been involved in the incident, the report may become unrestricted to ensure your safety or the safety of the child.

See our video about unrestricted reporting to learn more.

When it comes to filing a report of domestic abuse, there's a lot to consider. But remember, everyone deserves to feel safe and secure, and you are not alone.

The decision to report abuse is yours. And you can always talk with an advocate about your options.

Start online with a Family Advocacy Program at MilitaryOneSource.mil/DAVA to find the help nearest you.