

Sexual Assault

What is sexual assault?

Sexual assault is a crime defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, physical threat or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault includes rape, non-consensual sodomy, indecent assault (unwanted, inappropriate sexual contact or fondling), or attempts to commit these acts. Sexual assault can occur without regard to gender, spousal relationship, or age of the victim.

If you have been sexually assaulted, what do you do?

A victim advocate can explain the sexual-assault policy and the different reporting options. Active-duty victims have two reporting options; restricted and unrestricted reporting. Under restricted reporting, you can make a report confidentially to a sexual assault response coordinator, victim advocate, a healthcare provider or chaplain. Restricted reporting allows a victim to obtain counseling and mental health services without notifying law enforcement. In unrestricted reporting, you may report to any command personnel, Provost Marshal, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, uniformed victim advocate, Rape Crisis Center, chaplain or a healthcare provider, and then law enforcement will be notified. You can reach a victim advocate 24 hours a day on MCRD Parris Island, MCAS Beaufort, and Naval Hospital Beaufort by calling (843) 592-0646.

There is also help online at Military One Source at www.militaryonesource.com or call 800-342-9647, the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office at www.usmc-mccs.org/sapro, National Sexual Assault Hotline: 800-656-HOPE or call 911.