



CJTF Phoenix VII Equal Opportunity and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Programs Newsletter



EO/SAPR Team: LTC VanCort and MSG Misericordia

Edition 2, 1 July 2008

Welcome from the EO/SAPR Team for CJTF Phoenix VII, we hope that you find this newsletter beneficial in the performance of your duties as an Equal Opportunity Leader (EOL) and/or Victim Advocate (VA). We have placed many useful tools on the CJTF PHX VII intranet site at: <https://tfphx.oneteam.centcom.mil/Pages/default.aspx> You can find guidance, procedures, forms, posters, training packages, etc for both Equal Opportunity and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response. We welcome your feedback, comments, suggestions, etc.

Equal Opportunity and Prevention of Sexual Harassment

CJTF PHX VII will be conducting an Equal Opportunity Leaders training course from 4-9 August 2008. If you know you will be departing theater in the coming months or you are aware of Warriors in your command that desire training, advise your Commander and forward their names for attendance. Command can never have enough "eyes and ears" on the ground especially with the numerous FOBs and Camps in our Area of Operations.

Heads up!! We will be conducting a Task Force wide Organizational Climate Survey from 1 August-30 September 2008. Information on how Warriors will complete the survey will be coming out later this month. We are asking all EOL's to ensure the word gets out throughout your command so we have maximum participation. The Commanders goal is 75% input.

Reminder: All Warriors have to have refresher training in August-September timeframe. Ensure you document when this training is completed and keep it on file. A refresher training packet was emailed and is available on the intranet site for use. Tailor the information in the presentation to the needs of your command. We have had positive feedback from a couple units who have completed it already.

MSG Misericordia recently visited ARSIC-N and ARSIC-W met with EOL leaders in the ARSIC. These are strictly "visits" and not "inspections". It gives us an opportunity to see and meet EOLs in the field.

<https://tfphx.oneteam.centcom.mil/Pages/default.aspx> SOP's for EO and SAPR are on this website. If you are looking for forms, checklists, etc. it is here. It is a working site and new items are added all the time.

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program

ATTENTION New Unit Victim Advocate Case Assistance and Victim Assistance Information Packets are available on the CJTF Phoenix intranet site for your use. Recommend you go and download each of these files and have them available in case of a sexual assault incident. Provide any feedback to this office. We hope you find these tools useful.

Please ensure you update the Sexual Assault Posters for your units and include the following information:

Sexual Assault Hot Line: 431-7454/7453 (Confidential hot line – manned by SARC's at Bagram)

Military OneSource: Overseas:00-800-3429-6477 OS Collect:1-484-530-5908 (Confidential Hotline)

Phoenix TMC, Bldg A-4 237-2412

Bagram ER 431-3207 (5436)

We anticipate more information on medical resources by our next Sexual Assault Review Board in July. We continue to work on the "Due out list" from the UVA course. Items in process: Table of contents for a continuity book; medical sop; and additional level III options. We have provided the phone contacts, business card templates and this newsletter. All course attendees had some "due ins" and we are still looking for regional contacts and periodic updates on any climate issues or trends.

Interesting newsletter article in regards to Sexual Assault legislation in regards to contractors.

Poe/Slaughter Amendment Protects Civilian Contractors Working Overseas Tuesday, May 27, 2008 Requires Defense Contractors to Report Violent Crimes WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Ted Poe (TX-02) and Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (NY-28) offered an amendment to the Defense Appropriations Bill requiring defense contractors supporting the missions in Iraq and Afghanistan to report violent crimes committed against or by contracted employees to the Department of Defense and that the information be made public. Congress overwhelmingly approved this amendment by voice vote.

"This is one step in the right direction in bringing justice to victims," said Poe. "It is important that Americans working overseas know that the long arm of the law doesn't stop at our borders. The sexual assault case of Jamie Leigh Jones brought to light serious concerns over how our government and US contractors handle criminal activity in Iraq and Afghanistan. I applaud this Congress for recognizing this is not a political issue and working across party lines to overwhelmingly support this important amendment."

Slaughter/Poe Amendment to H.R. 5658, The Defense Appropriations Bill:

* Secretary of Defense shall develop requirements relating to covered offenses allegedly perpetrated by or against contractor personnel

* Creates a requirement for defense contractors to provide for victim and witness safety, medical assistance, and psychological assistance in the case of a covered offense

* Applies to all current and future government contractors Congressman Poe has been an outspoken advocate for justice on behalf of Jamie Leigh Jones. Poe was instrumental in facilitating the return of Ms. Jones after receiving a call from her father in July 2005. Congressman Poe contacted the State Department's Department of Overseas Citizen Services, which then dispatched agents from the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad to rescue her.

Congressman Poe is the founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional Victim's Rights Caucus. As a former criminal court judge and prosecutor for over 30 years in Houston, Texas, Poe is recognized nationally for his creative sentencing of criminals and as a dedicated advocate for victims and children.

Please feel free to provide input to this newsletter. We will publish this on a monthly basis on the 1st of each month. Please forward any input to LTC VanCort or MSG Misericordia NLT the 25th of each month. Thank you all for your role and in performance of this invaluable service you provide to Commanders and Warriors!