



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
1010 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

NOV 10 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP  
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS  
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Updates to Department of Defense Policy and Procedures for the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program and Adult Sexual Assault Investigations

- References:
- (a) National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92), December 20, 2019
  - (b) Department of Defense Directive 6495.01, "Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program," January 23, 2012, as amended
  - (c) Department of Defense Instruction 6495.02, Volume 1, "Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program Procedures," March 28, 2013, as amended
  - (d) Department of Defense Instruction 5505.18, "Investigation of Adult Sexual Assault in the Department of Defense," March 22, 2017, as amended
  - (e) Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, "Defense Sexual Assault Incident Database Updates Involving the Replacement of Lost Forms, Retaliation Reporting, and Electronic File Locker," October 15, 2019
  - (f) Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, "Revisions to the Monthly Case Management Group Meetings for Adult Sexual Assault Cases," November 13, 2019
  - (g) Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, "Revisions to the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program's Expedited Transfer Policy," February 10, 2020
  - (h) Department of Defense Instruction 6400.09, "DoD Policy on Integrated Primary Prevention of Self-Directed Harm and Prohibited Abuse or Harm," September 11, 2020
  - (i) Department of Defense Instruction 6495.02, Volume 2, "Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program Procedures: Education and Training," April 9, 2021

Requirements in reference (a), as well as identified issues of concern in the field, have necessitated rapid update of the policy, responsibilities, and procedures for the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program and the investigation and evidence collection in adult sexual assault cases. These updates apply to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Military Departments, Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, Combatant Commands, Office of Inspector General of the DoD, Defense Agencies, DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the Department (referred to collectively in this memorandum as the DoD Components).



OSD009900-21/CMD012693-21

I have approved policy changes to references (b), (c), and (d). The amended issuances supersede and cancel prior Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness sexual assault memorandums (references (e), (f), and (g)). A summary of these policy changes is found at [www.sapr.mil](http://www.sapr.mil).

DoD Components must ensure their internal procedures align with these amended issuances. In addition, DoD Components will align all SAPR-related prevention efforts with reference (h) and training efforts with reference (i).

Thank you for your continued efforts to support sexual assault victims.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen H. Hall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kathleen" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Hall".