

What should I do if I am sexually assaulted?

- Get away from the attacker to a safe place as fast as you can
- Report the assault as provided above.
- Preserve all evidence. Do not wash, comb or clean any part, or change clothes if possible.
- Protect the crime scene: close and lock the door where the crime occurred.
- Seek medical care as soon as possible. Even if there are no visible physical injuries, there may be risk of becoming pregnant or acquiring sexually transmitted diseases.
- Agree to a sexual assault forensic examination to preserve evidence.
- Do not feel ashamed or guilty. These feelings, as well as being afraid and shocked are normal. It is important to get counseling from a trusted professional (i.e., a Chaplain, Social worker, etc.)
- Remember that there are people that care for you and are standing by to assist
- Request assistance from the SARC, Victim Advocates, health care professionals or the chaplains.
- **You can call the SARC to coordinate for medical care after duty hours to ensure prompt medical action.**
- **No matter what time, call at your soonest opportunity for assistance, we care for you and we are here to assist**

BE AWARE

Sexual Assault Prevention

- Use the “Buddy System” and stay with a group
- Drink responsibly, stay in control
- Trust your instincts, if it does not feel right, leave
- Clearly communicate what you want or don’t want
- Use situational awareness at all times

General Facts

- Sexual assault is an act of power and violence, not sexual desire.
- Acquaintance or “date rape” (where the victim knows the attacker) occurs most often.
- Rapes and other sexual assaults are often unreported or not reported immediately, since victims are often ashamed or afraid no one will believe them.
- Rapes and other sexual assaults often involve a set of similar circumstances. Alcohol consumption and unlocked barracks rooms are the most common factors.
- Sexual assaults generally occur from Thursday through Sunday between 2200 and 0600
- Most sexual assault victims are female, but a male can also be sexually assaulted.
- Trend analyses and awareness training can help the threat of sexual assault for all personnel.

24/7 Phone Numbers

Sexual Assault Response Coordinator
(516) 462-3207

Academy EMS Ambulance
(516) 726-5858

Federal Bureau of Investigation
(631) 501-8600

Nassau County Sexual Assault Hotline
(516) 542-0404

United States Merchant Marine Academy



Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program

Sexual Assault

Sexual assault, a crime of violence, is defined as intentional touching of a sexual nature against the will (by use of force, physical threat, or abuse of authority), or without the consent of the victim. The victim of sexual assault may be male or female and the perpetrator of the sexual assault may be of the same or opposite sex. Sexual assault includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Unwanted kissing, groping, fondling or other more aggressive physical acts, such as rape, nonconsensual sodomy (oral or anal sex), or attempts to commit these acts;
- Sexual contact with someone whom you reasonably should have known was impaired due to the use of alcohol or drugs (including prescription medications);
- Sexual contact with someone who is “passed out”, sleeping or otherwise incapacitated;
- Sexual contact with someone who is unable to say “no” and/or change their mind due to the presence of coercion or intimidation; and
- Sexual contact with someone who is under the age of consent in the jurisdiction in which the sexual assault occurs..

Restricted Reporting

Restricted reporting allows a sexual assault victim to confidentially disclose the details of his/her assault to specifically identified individuals and receive medical care, victim advocacy and counseling, without triggering the official investigative process.

Restricted reporting is intended to give victims additional time and increased control over the release and management of their personal information, and to empower them to seek relevant information and support to make more informed decisions about whether to participate in the criminal and administrative investigation.

Midshipmen who are sexually assaulted and desire restricted reporting should report the assault to the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), Victim Advocate (VA), chaplain or a healthcare provider.

Unrestricted Reporting

A Midshipman who is sexually assaulted and desires medical treatment, counseling and an official investigation of his/her allegation should report the incident to the SARC or VA on duty or use current reporting channels, e.g. chain of command, law enforcement..

Additionally, with the victim’s consent a medical provider shall conduct a forensic examination, which may include the collection of evidence.

Victim Advocacy Program

Victim’s use of advocacy services is optional; however, the Academy must ensure that victims have access to a well coordinated, highly responsive sexual assault victim advocacy program that is available 24 hours per day/7 days per week. The Sexual Assault Response Coordinator coordinates with advocacy service providers to ensure that a robust and flexible system is in place to take care of victims in need of these services.

Crime Victims Have a Right to:

- Be treated with fairness and respect for one's dignity and privacy
- Receive immediate and effective medical care and attention, including long-term follow-up
- Be reasonably protected from the accused
- Be notified of court hearings
- Be present at public court hearings unless the court determines otherwise
- Confer with the attorney for the Government
- Receive restitution, if appropriate
- Receive information regarding conviction, sentencing, imprisonment, and release
- **If desired, to confidential or restricted reporting of the sexual assault incident**