DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0200

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MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Army Policy on Sexual Assault

Sexual assault is a crime that cannot and will not be tolerated in the United States Army. It has a devastating and often lasting impact on the victim, a fellow Soldier. Moreover, sexual assault tears at the moral fiber of our unit formations, degrading our readiness. Sexual assault has no place in the Army . . . we're a values based organization; we take care of our fellow Soldiers . . . and treat all Soldiers with dignity and respect.

Army policy promotes awareness and education to prevent sexual assault; sensitive care for sexual assault victims; aggressive, timely, and thorough investigation of all reported sexual assaults; and accountability for those who commit these crimes. Further, we demand and expect that leaders at every level will create and promote a positive command climate in which victims have the confidence in the Chain of Command and criminal investigators to report these crimes immediately. Additionally, leaders must ensure that Soldiers and other members of the Army community treat sexual assault victims with dignity, fairness, and respect for their privacy. The Army has existing medical and legal policies and programs to assist leaders. Use these resources to provide victims with immediate medical care, follow-up counseling, and seamless victim assistance.

Bottom line: this is a leadership and chain of command issue. Let's make the right things happen.

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