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	<p>who utilize SVC representation. Pursuant to FY16 NDAA § 535(b), the Service SVC/VLC Program Managers prepared and coordinated a Guiding Principles Memorandum to the Service Secretaries that establishes assessment metrics and standards for all of the Service SVC/VLC Programs. Direction from OSD is forthcoming.</p> <p>The SVC Program has developed a self-inspection checklist that is aligned with the requirements in AFI 51-504 and will be accomplished semi-annually by each SVC office. Once accomplished, the self-inspection checklist will be provided to the Program Chief, through the SSVC, for review by TJAG prior to Article 6, UCMJ, inspections at installations with SVC locations. The self-inspection checklists will be provided along with trip book inputs that are developed by the SSVCs as a report on local SVC operations, including relationships with the installation Staff Judge Advocate, Area Defense Counsel, and SARC.</p>
USN	<p>The Navy VLCP reached full operational capability on 1 January 2014. Because the program was so new, no UCMJ Article 6 Inspection occurred in fiscal year 2014. A VLC program self-assessment guide (attached as enclosure (13)) was drafted in 2015. The VLCP is being formally inspected on the self-assessment guide as part of the UCMJ Article 6 Inspection in 2016.</p> <p>ENCLOSURE:</p> <p>VLC Self-Assessment Guide, undated</p>
USMC	<p>Please see 125.c, above.</p>
USCG	<p>See Performance Goals: Special Victims' Counsel (15 Jul 2013-30 April 2014)(Enclosure 7)</p> <p>Same as d. above. Additionally, the SVC Program has submitted information pertaining to the treatment and utilization of SVCs to USCG JAG leadership for inclusion in TJAGs oversight visits to legal offices across the Coast Guard pursuant to his authority in Article 6, UCMJ.</p> <p>ENCLOSURE:</p> <p>SVC Performance Goals</p>

g. Training requirements for SVCs.

DoD	<p>DoD believes the TJAGS and the SJA to the CMC are best equipped to set standards and establish the appropriate infrastructure of their respective SVC/VLC programs. Having said that, the NDAA for FY 2016, requires the Secretary of Defense, in collaboration with the Secretaries of the Military Departments and the Secretary of Homeland Security, to establish certain “guiding principles” for the SVC/VLC programs, including ensuring SVCs/VLCs are assigned to locations that maximize face-to-face communication between counsel and clients, establishing effective means of communication to permit counsel and client interactions when face-to-face communication is not feasible, developing performance measures and standards that measure the effectiveness of the SVC/VLC programs and client satisfaction, and</p>
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	processes for the Secretaries of the Military Departments and Homeland Security, to evaluate and monitor the SVC/VLC programs using the guiding principles. The DoD Office of General Counsel will lead this collaborative effort with TJAGs and SJA to CMC.
USA	No update.
USAF	At this time, there are no new doctrinal publications regarding SVC training requirements. Training materials are updated regularly, and current information is presented at the SVC Course, ISALC and ASALC, outreach presentations by SVCs, and informal training Webcasts by AFLOA/CLSV. See JPP RFI 133.
USN	<p>All VLC are initially trained as Navy Judge Advocates, and are sworn pursuant to Articles 27(b) and 42(a) of the UCMJ. 31 Judge Advocates were initially selected and vetted by the Judge Advocate General of the Navy for VLC assignment based on demonstrated litigation expertise, professionalism, maturity, judgment, interest, and proven inter-personal skills. These VLC were then trained at specialized Victims' Counsel Training Courses executed by the Navy, Air Force, and Army, focusing on the rights, support, recovery, and advocacy of victims. Each VLC attended one of the week-long courses which combined instruction by military and civilian subject-matter experts with practical exercises to prepare VLC for representation and litigation. Following completion of a certification course, each Navy VLC was officially certified to execute VLC duties by the Judge Advocate General of the Navy (sample certification letter at enclosure (14)). Continuing education is achieved through attendance at specialized sexual assault training courses, intra-VLC communication and collaboration on a collective VLC SharePoint website, and through regularly scheduled group training via video-teleconferencing.</p> <p>ENCLOSURE:</p> <p>Certification of Navy Victims' Legal Counsel, (Sample)</p>
USMC	<p>The USMC has developed the following baseline training requirements for VLC:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Once a potential VLC is identified, that name is forwarded to the OIC, VLCO, who screens the counsel for criminal and professional misconduct (2) Before a judge advocate is certified to represent a victim, the judge advocate must complete an SVC/VLC certification course at either the Army or Air Force JAG Schools (3) Approximately 6 months after certification, all VLC attend advanced training at the USMC's Annual VLC Symposium. (4) Approximately 12 months after training, all VLC attend the National Crime Victim Law Institute's (NCVLI) annual Crime Victim Law Conference. (5) During each 12 month period, each of the four Regional VLC will provide training for all VLC in their region.
USCG	Same as a. above.

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h. SVC training course guidelines and standards.

DoD	DoD believes the TJAGS and the SJA to the CMC are best equipped to set standards and establish the appropriate infrastructure of their respective SVC/VLC programs. Having said that, the NDAA for FY 2016, requires the Secretary of Defense, in collaboration with the Secretaries of the Military Departments and the Secretary of Homeland Security, to establish certain “guiding principles” for the SVC/VLC programs, including ensuring SVCs/VLCs are assigned to locations that maximize face-to-face communication between counsel and clients, establishing effective means of communication to permit counsel and client interactions when face-to-face communication is not feasible, developing performance measures and standards that measure the effectiveness of the SVC/VLC programs and client satisfaction, and processes for the Secretaries of the Military Departments and Homeland Security, to evaluate and monitor the SVC/VLC programs using the guiding principles. The DoD Office of General Counsel will lead this collaborative effort with TJAGs and SJA to CMC.
USA	Please see attached course schedule and guidelines. ENCLOSURES: 1. Info Paper on SVC Program 2. Representing Children Overseas Info Paper 3. SVC Course Presentation 4. SVC Program Overview Hill Engagement 5. SVC Structure Slide
USAF	See JPP RFI 133.
USN	As noted in the response to question 125(g), Navy VLC must complete a specialized training and certification course focused on victim rights, victim advocacy, and special issues affecting sexual offense victims. All Navy VLC attended a certification course executed by the Navy VLCP, Army Special Victims’ Counsel (SVC) Program, or Air Force SVC Program. Course schedules for each course are attached in enclosures (15), (16) and (17). ENCLOSURES: 1. VLC Certification Course Schedule, January 2014 2. Army SVC Course Curriculum, July 2015 3. Air Force SVC Course Curriculum, January – June 2015
USMC	The USMC does not have a JAG School and sends VLC to certification courses at either the Army or Air Force JAG Schools.
USCG	While the Coast Guard relies on the attendance at training courses offered by the Army and Air Force JAG Schools, it is hosting a conference for USCG SVC, both collateral duty and fulltime, in April 2016. The course will cover Coast Guard specific subject matter, guidelines, instructions and process and will include briefings, small and large group discussions, and moderated panels with guest speakers representing USCG SARC, CGIS, Victim Advocates, Family Advocacy, military judges, the clemency process, military justice office, district staff judge advocates, commanders, trial counsel, physicians, HIPAA experts, and the Civil Rights Division as well as Protect Our

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	Defenders and an expert in secondary trauma. Additionally, SVCs have attended several victim advocacy courses offered by non-DoD entities including the End Violence Against Women International Conference, National Crime Victims Law Conference, and the Crimes Against Children Conference. Finally, SVCs have attended trainings offered by the sister services intended to promote better advocacy and legal assistance for sexual assault victims.
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i. Oversight and coordination of the programs within and across the Services.

DoD	DoD believes the TJAGS and the SJA to the CMC are best equipped to set standards and establish the appropriate infrastructure of their respective SVC/VLC programs. Having said that, the NDAA for FY 2016, requires the Secretary of Defense, in collaboration with the Secretaries of the Military Departments and the Secretary of Homeland Security, to establish certain “guiding principles” for the SVC/VLC programs, including ensuring SVCs/VLCs are assigned to locations that maximize face-to-face communication between counsel and clients, establishing effective means of communication to permit counsel and client interactions when face-to-face communication is not feasible, developing performance measures and standards that measure the effectiveness of the SVC/VLC programs and client satisfaction, and processes for the Secretaries of the Military Departments and Homeland Security, to evaluate and monitor the SVC/VLC programs using the guiding principles. The DoD Office of General Counsel will lead this collaborative effort with TJAGs and SJA to CMC.
USA	Every 4-6 weeks the Program Managers from all Services meet to discuss the Program’s policy and strategic objectives. Program Managers collaborate on issues that may involve more than one Service, or to share information that is beneficial for all the Services. The Services collaborate on potential victim appeals and extend opportunities for each program to file amicus briefs in support of a particular issue. On a more formal basis, the Services formed a working group to develop uniform baseline training for SVC. Individual SVC at the installation level routinely collaborate with SVC/VLC from the other Services who also serve within their geographic region. The SVC Program Manager communicates with stakeholders across the Army regarding issues of mutual interest, such as victim interviews and evidence collection, utilization of FAP services and SHARP data collection and survey responses.
USAF	SVC coordination across the Services is conducted regularly through email exchanges and teleconferences between the Service Program Chiefs to discuss responses to issues, comments for legislation, and input for Department- and Service-level policies and regulations. Regularly scheduled meetings are attended by all Services, Coast Guard, and National Guard Program leadership. Program leadership collaborates on training opportunities at military and civilian venues. Collaboration and cross-pollination of students and faculty help the Services develop consistent approaches to interpretation of the law and cross-feed best practices. For example, in FY15, the SVCs and VLCs in the European region conducted a regional training course where they shared pleading templates and discussed strategies and distinctions common to cases in Europe. The training was immensely successful in expanding the knowledge base of the attendees and building the camaraderie between the Services. Finally, the Service Program Chiefs collaborates on possible extraordinary writs or amicus briefs.