

**JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS PANEL
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION SET # 6**

149. Services: What guidance has been developed for SVCs who have a client that expresses concerns of social or professional retaliation? Is there guidance for SVCs that specifically addresses social ostracism issues or retaliation on social media?

USA	<p>Special Victims' Counsel are trained during the certification course to address victims' concerns with social and professional retaliation. See Enclosures 1 and 2; SVC Establishment Documents and SVC Training.</p> <p>ENCLOSURES:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SVC Handbook, 3rd Edition – Apr 16 2. Info Paper on SVC Program 3. Representing Children Overseas Info Paper 4. SVC Course Presentation 5. SVC Program Overview Hill Engagement 6. SVC Structure Slide 7. 2nd Child SVCC Course Block Schedule 8. 3rd Child SVCC Course Block Schedule 9. 4th SVC Course Block Schedule 10. 5th SVC Course Block Schedule 11. 6th SVC Course Block Schedule 12. DC2016 Brochure 13. FEB 2014 2nd Child SVCC Block Schedule 14. Final WO Training Schedule 15. SVC Attorney Training Courses
USAF	<p>Air Force SVCs are provided instruction in the SVC course regarding retaliation, including ostracism, and the recourses available to clients, such as filing complaints with the Inspector General (IG), Equal Opportunity (EO), Congress or in other avenues, including under Article 138, UCMJ. SSVCs also provide informal guidance to SVCs on the options for client concerns about retaliation. Additionally, the forthcoming AFI 51-504 explicitly authorizes SVCs to assist clients with filing complaints with the IG, EO, and Congress. Even without such guidance, SVCs have successfully resolved retaliation issues with commanders and supervisors, whether through the CMG meetings or in individual meetings. One SVC worked with the Air Force Personnel Center to enable his client to retrain into another career field after his client suffered retaliation in the small career field the client was in at the time of the sexual assault. In coordination with the SARC, SVCs have also assisted with expedited transfers.</p>
USN	<p>VLC with a client who expresses concerns of social or professional retaliation are taught to handle the situation expeditiously and attempt to resolve the issue at the lowest level before resorting to a formal complaint. VLC reported success using the Sexual Assault Case Management Group as an opportunity to advise the victim's leadership of what is occurring and to seek avenues of relief. Navy VLC are specifically trained and expected to assist victims in working retaliation issues, regardless of whether the matter is official command reprisal or lower level peer-to-peer social ostracism. Navy VLC were individually polled on client retaliation support in January 2015. The vast majority of retaliation issues reported were of the lower level peer and ostracism variety and typically resolved either by quick communications with command leadership or rendered moot by a successful expedited transfer. Retaliation and ostracism training for VLC was</p>

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	held on 1 July 2015 and will be part of the agenda at the Navy VLCP symposium in April 2016.
USMC	<p>The draft USMC VLC Manual will address VLC representation of victims in cases where there has been retaliation. As of 31 March 2016, the draft Manual is pending final review and approval before publication. The Marine Corps definition for retaliation includes both command reprisal as well as social ostracism. See SECNAVINST 5730.7D enclosure (1). In both cases, it is VLC practice to bring complaints of retaliation to immediate commander and to continue to elevate the complaint to higher commanders until the complaint is resolved unless the client decides the complaint should be made to IG, Congress or another appropriate entity.</p> <p>Individual VLC also provide training on retaliation for Marines and organizations. See the attached slide presentation that VLC have presented to Marines at Camp Lejeune and Camp Pendleton, enclosure (19).</p> <p>ENCLSOURE:</p> <p>Victim’s Legal Counsel and Retaliation Slide Presentation</p>
USCG	<p>The guidance for SVCs regarding retaliation is the same as for all matters adversely impacting their client; that is, represent your client’s interests as fully and proficiently as possible. In speaking with SVCs during monthly and/or bi-weekly meetings, the Program Manager discusses best practices dealing with allegations of retaliation and ostracism (seeking help from command, filing a hostile work environment complaint with civil rights, asking for a CGIS investigation into the matter, requesting an expedited transfer), but there is no specific policy in place. The ability of SVCs to represent clients in these matters is included in the draft SVC Instruction.</p>