

**JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS PANEL
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION SET # 1**

37. Services: In your Service, are there plans or intent to merge or co-locate any of the victim assistance programs? If so, please describe. If not, why not?

<p>USA</p>	<p>There are no plans to integrate the VWL program (AR 27-10, Military Justice, Chapter 17) with the sexual assault victim advocate (AR 600-20, Army Command Policy, Chapter 8) or the Domestic Violence victim advocate programs (AR 608-18, The Army Family Advocacy Program, Chapter 3). All of these programs provide services under different regulations and have different training requirements. The VWL program provides services to all victims (including non DoD affiliated victims) of crimes that are proposed to be resolved under the UCMJ. Victim Witness Liaison services are required at earliest opportunity after detection of a crime in accordance with paragraph 17-8, AR 27-10. The VWL emphasis is bringing/assisting the victim through the UCMJ/court-martial process. Referrals to other service providers/helping agencies are made as may be required by the circumstances. The sexual assault and domestic violence victim advocates have a different focus, and provide services to all of their narrowly defined victim clients to include those whose issues will not be resolved by UCMJ action. Sexual assault and domestic violence victim advocates assist only DoD affiliated victims.</p> <p>However, on June 2, 2014 the Chief of Staff of the Army (CSA) approved the establishment of a pilot program for twelve Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention Resource Centers (SHARP-RC's) in order to assess the feasibility of an army-wide implementation of consolidated sexual assault resource centers at all camps, posts, and stations. The CSA approved twelve locations for participation in the pilot program. Installations were selected based on size, population and the type of units. This will provide the CSA with a broad assessment of the feasibility of establishing SHARP-RCs across the Army. Commanders will have the flexibility to man, equip and resource their SHARP-RC based upon unit population, available resources and demand. The CSA has directed that the SHARP-RC must serve as a "one stop shop" for commanders, victims, and unit SARCs. The SHARP-RC's will serve as a central facility that enables the fusion between the critical stakeholders in SHARP cases and the SHARP program. The program intent is that each SHARP-RC will have a representative from the medical treatment facility community, Provost Marshal, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, a victim advocate and a SARC in order to ensure a multi-disciplinary collaboration. Commanders have flexibility to determine manning, resourcing, and policy requirements.</p>
<p>USAF</p>	<p>There are no plans AF wide to merge or co-locate all of the victim assistance programs in a single location. Each program is unique in nature and falls under different larger categories of services provided to victims. Each command has the opportunity to evaluate whether co-location makes sense at a given installation. For example, at USAFA the SVC and VWAP programs will be co-located, at least part time, in the Client Legal Services Center beginning in 2015.</p> <p>Victim and Witness Assistance Program personnel are typically co-located within the installation legal office where legal assistance is provided. In cases involving legal assistance clients that are victims who may be involved in subsequent courts-martial</p>

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	<p>proceedings, legal offices must exercise extreme caution to avoid breaches of confidentiality and conflicts of interests. Attorney licensure requirements, privilege, and professional responsibilities prohibit a true merger of legal assistance responsibilities with the SAPR and FAP programs.</p> <p>Family Advocacy is part of the medical community and requires specialized care that is also confidential. Co-locating this care with a non-medical entity would potentially compromise this confidentiality.</p> <p>Currently, SVC office locations vary from co-location with the SARC office, a multi-disciplinary facility or a stand-alone facility. The SVC Division chief works with the installation SJA to request adequate space for SVC offices, to include co-location with the other victim assistance agencies such as the SARC.</p>
USN	<p>There is no intent to merge the Navy VLCP with any other Navy or DoD victim assistance program. However, VLC were purposely co-located with SARCs and VAs in Fleet and Family Support Centers to enable sexual assault victims to go to one location, meet with their SARC, VA, or FAP case worker and then meet with VLC on site.</p>
USMC	<p>While most VLCO offices are co-located with the local Legal Services Support Section (LSSS), two VLCO offices are co-located with local SAPR offices at MCB Quantico, VA, and 29 Palms, CA. The Response Systems Panel report sited the model where the USMC co-located all victim services under one roof as a “positive step.”</p>
USCG	<p>There are currently no plans or intent to merge or co-locate any of the victim assistance programs. Our service structure, available resources, and SVC case volume does not support a solitary SVC position co-located with other victim assistance programs.</p>