

VLCs reporting for duty prior to the VLC Certification Course may be asked to support Sexual Assault Victims in their local AORs prior to official certification. Immediate support for these victims is authorized subject to following conditions:

- The VLC may contact the Victim and advise of their pending status as a certified Navy Victims' Legal Counsel;
- The VLC may meet with the Victim to establish an initial, confidential relationship;
- The VLC may advise & counsel the Victim on matters where the Counsel is a qualified expert; to include the nature, components, and processes of the Military Justice System;
- The VLC should refer advice on other VWAP and Victim Support matters to the relevant SARC or VA until qualified to provide the advice themselves;
- The VLC should refer advice or support to the Victim regarding any collateral misconduct to the local DSO;
- The VLC may attend interviews and testimonial appearances of the Victim, but should not formally appear or advocate in an official proceeding for the Victim until certified;
- The VLC may advocate for the Victim with law enforcement, trial or command authorities in matters of Military Justice;
- The VLC should advise the Victim that further assistance may be provided once certification is complete and an official Scope of Representation Letter is executed between the parties;
- The VLC should evidence kindness and compassion in all dealings with Sex Assault Victims, whether certified or not;
- The VLC may contact the COS or DCOS VLC for any further guidance regarding pre-certification support for Victims.