

## Part I



Dr. Rene Robichaux MEDCOM Family Advocacy Program Mgr. 6 Nov 2009



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Army Family Advocacy Program



## **BRIEFING OUTLINE**

PURPOSE: To provide information on the Army Family Advocacy Program

- Mission
  DoD Definitions
  FAP
  Case Review Committee (CRC)
  Child Abuse Rates
  Army Child Abuse Cases
  Spouse Abuse Rates
  Army Spouse Abuse Cases
  New Parent Support Program
  Restricted Reporting Policy for Incidents
  of Domestic Violence
  Transitional Compensation
  Transitional Compensation FY 2000 –
  2007
  Army Fatality Review
  Fatality Review Child Deaths FY 03 07
  Keys to Success



Army Family Advocacy Program



# **MISSION**

• To prevent spouse and child abuse, to encourage the reporting of all instances of abuse cases, to protect victims of abuse, to treat those affected by or involved in abuse, and to ensure personnel are professionally trained to intervene in abuse cases





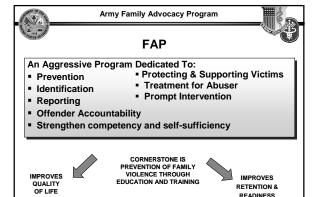
#### **DoD Definitions**

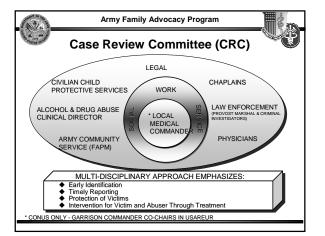
- Child Abuse The physical or mental injury, sexual abuse or exploitation, or negligent treatment of a child. It does not include discipline administered by a parent or legal guardian to his or her child provided it is reasonable in manner and moderate in degree and otherwise does not constitute
- Domestic Violence is an offense under the United States Code, the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or state law that involves the use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or violence against a person of the opposite sex, or a violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person of the opposite sex, who is (a) a current or former spouse; (b) a person with whom the abuser shares a child in common; or (c) a current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

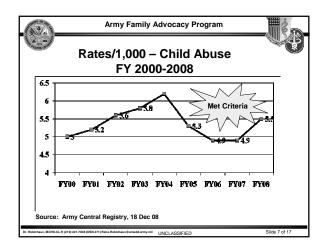
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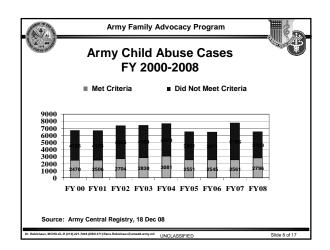
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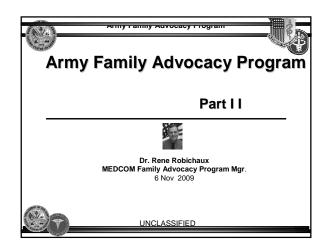
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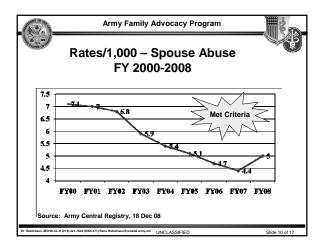


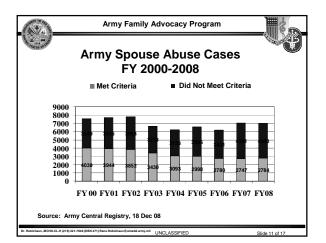


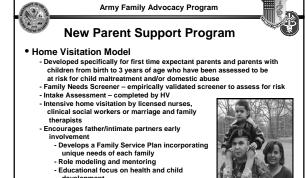












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## **Restricted Reporting Policy for Incidents of Domestic Abuse**

- Prepared ALARACT Msg provides the framework for implementing confidential restricted reporting for victims of domestic abuse (effective date: 22 April 06)
  - Limited to adult victims of domestic abuse eligible to receive military medical treatment, including civilians and contractors eligible to receive military healthcare outside CONUS on a reimbursable basis
  - Must report to specified individuals: victim advocate (VA), VA supervisor or healthcare provider (includes FAP clinical social workers)

  - Six exceptions to restricted reporting outlined in DoD Memo When disclosure is warranted, VA or healthcare provider must consult with their supervisor and servicing legal office prior to disclosure
  - When there is uncertainty on whether the exception applies, matter will be brought to Garrison Commander for decision

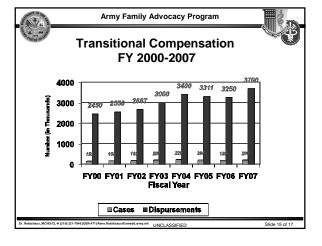


**Army Family Advocacy Program** 



#### **Transitional Compensation**

- FY94 National Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 103-160)
  - Provides monetary compensation and benefits for dependents of military personnel on active duty who are separated or sentenced to total forfeiture of pay and allowances for a dependent-abuse offense
  - Monthly monetary compensation IAW DIC rates
    - \$1091 for spouse
    - \$271 for each eligible child
    - \$462 for child only



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Army Fatality Review – Allows the Army to identify systemic problems and formulate lessons learned

FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	Significant Findings – Child Abuse
6/18	3/13	8/18	2/12	# of child abuse fatalities that occurred while the Soldier was deployed
56 %	54%	39%	67%	% of adults involved in child abuse fatalities who had active substance abuse/ mental health issues
76%	62%	83%	83%	% of all child deaths when children were under the age of four

FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	Significant Findings – Spouse Abuse
none	none	none	none	There was no <u>direct</u> evidence that domestic violence fatalities occurred as a result of deployment**
N/A	80%	63%	40%	% of domestic violence fatalities where the couples were separated as a result of severe marital discord
2/8	3/5	4/16	6/15	# of domestic violence fatalities where there was no indication of risk or involvement with the FAP

<sup>\*\*</sup> Note: Army Criteria: Soldier deployed, re-deployed OIF/OEF within 6 months prior to fatality

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## FATALITY REVIEW FY 03-07 CHILD DEATHS(civ.rates vs. actual)

- 7485(.01)=75 fatalities: actual 17 (FY 03)
- 7654(.01)=77 fatalities: actual 13 (FY 04)
- 6462(.01)=65 fatalities: actual 18 (FY 05)
- 6456(.01)=65 fatalities: actual 12 (FY 06)
- 7727(.01)=77 fatalities: actual 14 (FY 07)
- \* Fatalities in Texas represent 1% of all investigated cases and 50% of all fatalities had previously been investigated

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Army Family Advocacy Program



# **Keys to Success**

- Ensure the safety of victims is paramount
- Issue and enforce protection orders
- Grant FAPM accessibility on high risk cases
- Ensure program is adequately staffed
- Utilize the Family Advocacy Committee to analyze issues, trends and recommend solutions
- Fully implement the ACS Accreditation standards
- Target high risk populations with effective prevention and education programs

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