



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON DC 20310

11 JUL 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Army Directive 2019-24 (Reporting Responsibilities of Commanders and Covered Professionals for Child Abuse and Neglect)

1. References:

a. National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, Public Law 114-328, section 575, 130 Stat. 2142–2143 (Dec. 23, 2016).

b. Title 34, U.S. Code, section 20341.

c. Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 6400.01 (Family Advocacy Program (FAP)), May 1, 2019.

d. DoD Instruction 6400.06 (Domestic Abuse Involving DoD Military and Certain Affiliated Personnel); August 21, 2007; Incorporating Change 4, May 26, 2017.

e. Army Regulation (AR) 608-18 (The Army Family Advocacy Program), 30 October 2017, Including Rapid Action Revision Issued 13 September 2011.

2. Purpose. This directive revises the Army reporting requirement in abuse cases in AR 608-18, paragraph 3-4 (reference 1e) and incorporates legislative requirements for individuals within the chain of command and covered professionals to report allegations of child abuse occurring in military Families and homes.

3. Policy

a. Reference 1a mandates that all allegations of child abuse in military Families and homes be reported immediately to the FAP on the installation to which the concerned servicemember is assigned.

b. Individuals within the chain of command of a servicemember will report credible information, which may include a reasonable belief that a child in the Family or home of the servicemember has suffered an incident of child abuse and/or child neglect, to the installation FAP.

c. Covered professionals, as described in DoD Instruction 6400.06 (reference 1d), are required to report any suspected incidents of abuse and/or neglect of a child in the Family or home of a servicemember to the local Child Protective Service (CPS) agency

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and the appropriate FAP office. In overseas locations, reports will be made in line with applicable treaties or status of forces agreements and FAP. In emergency situations, covered professionals will also report child abuse and/or neglect to the appropriate law enforcement or security personnel. Reports will be made whether the incident occurred on or off the installation.

d. Covered professionals include:

(1) physicians, dentists, medical residents or interns, hospital personnel and administrators, nurses, healthcare practitioners, chiropractors, osteopaths, pharmacists, optometrists, podiatrists, emergency medical technicians, ambulance drivers, medical examiners, alcohol or drug treatment personnel, and persons performing in a healing role or practicing the healing arts.

(2) psychologists, psychiatrists, and mental health professionals.

(3) social workers and licensed or unlicensed marriage, family, and individual counselors.

(4) teachers, teacher's aides or assistants, school counselors and guidance personnel, school officials, and school administrators.

(5) child care workers and administrators.

(6) law enforcement personnel, probation officers, and criminal prosecutors.

(7) foster parents.

e. In addition, in reference 1d, the Office of the Secretary of Defense requires persons engaged in providing child and youth services and anyone else who may serve in a caregiving role to children to adhere to the requirements set forth in paragraph 3c of this directive.

4. Child Protective Services. CPS is defined as any State, local, or foreign department, agency, or office that provides child protective services to Families affected by child abuse (reference 1e). CPS investigates allegations of child abuse and child neglect. FAP works in collaboration with CPS and the command to ensure the safety of the child, and provide treatment and resources for the parents and child, as appropriate.

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5. Responsibilities

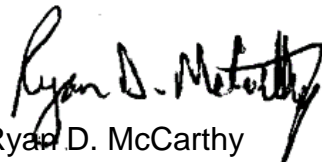
a. The installation FAP Manager has primary responsibility for briefing commanders and senior noncommissioned officers on FAP policy within 45 days of taking command. Information regarding local contact numbers for CPS and its overseas equivalent will be provided during command and noncommissioned officer briefs, and troop training. The FAP Manager will ensure that contact numbers for FAP and the local CPS or its overseas equivalent are current and that information about this requirement is widely disseminated to make sure persons affected by this directive know where to report child abuse and neglect.

b. Army organizations affected by this directive will update their policies and procedures to ensure that mandated reporters (covered professionals) and commanders within the organization understand and carry out their responsibilities in reporting suspected child abuse and/or neglect.

6. Applicability. This directive applies to the Regular Army and other uniformed Services (and their Families) assigned to or residing on Army installations. It also applies to members of the Army National Guard/Army National Guard of the United States and U.S. Army Reserve on active duty for 30 days or more. It does not apply to members of the U.S. Army Reserve performing inactive duty training or to members of the Army National Guard of the United States performing duty in a State status under Title 32 of the U.S. Code.

7. Proponent. The Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) is the proponent for this policy. The Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management will incorporate the provisions of this directive into AR 608-18 within 2 years of the date of this directive.

8. Duration. This directive is rescinded upon publication of the revised regulation.



Ryan D. McCarthy
Performing the Duties
of the Secretary of the Army

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