

Approved Unit Level Activities to support Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM)

For all of the following activities, units must always work with their cognizant Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) to ensure accurate and appropriate information is being relayed to our members. If available, Victim Advocates (VAs) should also be included in all unit activities to increase name and face recognition as these individuals are trained to assist victims. If available, units are encouraged to have Chaplains and healthcare personnel participate in SAAM activities as well.

1. **5K Community Run.** A command led run could increase awareness and team-building. Family members could also be invited to join.
2. **Local Rape Crisis Center Involvement.** Work with your SARC to find a trusted local rape crisis center in your area and contact them to see if they would like to spread awareness of their resources to your members through an event.
3. **Small Discussion Groups.** Do “coffee & conversations” or “brown bag lunches” based on sexual assault articles. The CG-111 SAPR website lists many of the recent Coast Guard blog posts on sexual assault that could be used for a discussion http://www.uscg.mil/worklife/sapr_news.asp.
4. **Leadership Discussions on Culture.** Command leaders could organize a discussion around climate and culture change during a “brown bag lunch” or other informal discussion format with their personnel.
5. **Leadership Discussions on Bystander Intervention.** Watch the Bystander Intervention video presented by Mr. Jeff O’Brien at the September 2013 Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Summit and discuss successful intervention techniques. The video is located at <https://cglink.uscg.mil/80d7ba13>.
6. **DoD Safe Helpline Materials.** Use information and materials available on the DoD Safe Helpline to formulate command discussions about sexual assault or run plan of the day (POD) notes <https://www.safehelpline.org/>.
7. **Sexual Assault Statistics.** Presenting sexual assault statistics to the members of your command can be a great way to increase awareness. However, only use statistics from credible resources such as government agencies like the U.S. Department of Justice, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Here are a few of these agency websites with related statistics:

<http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/violent-crime/rape>

<http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/pdf/SV-DataSheet-a.pdf>

<http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=tp&tid=317>

Additionally, the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) provides more comprehensible statistics that reference back to credible resources.

<http://www.rainn.org/statistics>.

NOTE: When using statistics, be sure to understand the context of the data as information varies depending on definition of terms (rape versus sexual assault), population surveyed, reference periods (lifetime versus last month/year), and other screening variances.

Actual Coast Guard Sexual Assault Reports

Year	Unrestricted Reports	Restricted Reports
FY09	68	10
FY10	76	5
FY11	92	5
FY12	150	15
FY13	165	31