



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF DEFENSE
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence will not be tolerated in the Department of Defense (DoD). In Fiscal Year 2000, more than 10,500 physical and/or sexual assaults of a spouse were substantiated in the DoD Family Advocacy Program, with more than 5,200 active duty personnel identified as the alleged perpetrators.

Domestic violence is an offense against the institutional values of the Military Services of the United States of America. Commanders at every level have a duty to take appropriate steps to prevent domestic violence, protect victims, and hold those who commit it accountable.

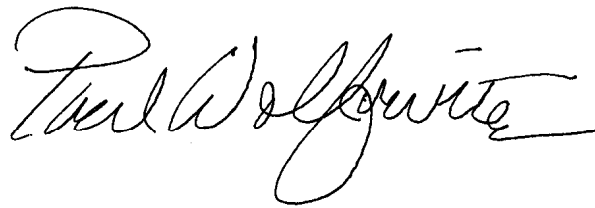
Therefore, I call upon the leaders at all levels in the Department of Defense to make every effort to:

- provide timely information to new personnel and family members, to include lists of locally available military and civilian resources to prevent domestic violence, procedures for responses to reports of domestic violence, and information about the DoD Transitional Compensation Program;
- improve coordination between military and civilian community agencies that provide the first response to domestic violence issues and incidents, especially through negotiated agreements;



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- increase protection to victims through coordinated enforcement of civilian orders of protection affecting military personnel on DoD installations and military protective orders issued by commanding officers; and
- update and standardize education and training programs on domestic violence for commanding officers, senior noncommissioned officers, and personnel with law enforcement, health care, and legal responsibilities, to ensure those programs contain information on how to prevent domestic violence, how to recognize when it has occurred, and how to take action to protect victims and to hold offenders accountable as appropriate.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul W. Givite". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.