

The Congressional Women's Caucus

Invites you to a Member Briefing Regarding

Domestic Violence in the Armed Services:

*What is the Department of Defense Doing to End the
Crisis?*

Thursday, May 13, 2004

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

2116 Rayburn House Office Building

Dear Colleague:

The Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues invites you to a very important briefing regarding the Department of Defense's policies towards ending domestic violence. The issue of domestic violence is clearly related to the issue of sexual assault in the military, on which the Caucus held a hearing earlier this year. The Caucus will hear from Mr. John Molino, Under Secretary of Defense for Military, Community, and Family Policy, and Ms. Deborah Tucker, Executive Director of the National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence and Co-Chair of the Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence (DTFDV).

The DTFDV was established in the Fiscal Year '00 Defense Authorization Bill to examine domestic violence within the Armed Services and to make recommendations for measures to improve the DoD response to the problem in a wide range of areas, including offender accountability, victim safety programs, and the establishment of a climate for effective prevention of domestic violence. Under the guidance of Ms. Tucker, the DTFDV completed its work in March 2003 and issued over 200 policy recommendations to the Department of Defense, 194 of which the Department elected to adopt. Ms. Deborah Tucker will be on hand to brief the Caucus regarding the work of the DTFDV, and to provide valuable insight on domestic violence in the military from the civilian perspective. Ms. Tucker is committed to helping the Department of Defense end the often-tragic problem of domestic violence.

The Department of Defense is in the process of implementing these recommendations, and has agreed to have Mr. Molino brief the Women's Caucus to provide an overview of its progress. Mr. Molino became the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy (MC&FP) on June 11, 2001, and then the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (MC&FP) on November 15, 2002. Family violence prevention and intervention is included within the purview of his office. Since June 2002, Mr. Molino has also served as the acting Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Equal Opportunity. In this role, he directs the development and coordination of equal opportunity and nondiscrimination policies and programs, and he has programmatic and management oversight responsibility for the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute, the nation's largest equal opportunity training program.

As advocates for improving women's lives and safety, we hope you will join us for this very important briefing. Staff are also welcome to attend. To find a copy of the DOD report and other DOD materials on domestic violence, please visit http://www.ncdsv.org/ncd_militaryresponse.html. If you would like to submit questions to the panelists ahead of time, please send them to Ann Norris at ann.norris@mail.house.gov <<mailto:ann.norris@mail.house.gov>>. If you have any further questions, please contact Ann Norris in the office of Rep. Sanchez at 5-2965, Julia Ernst in the office of Rep. Slaughter at 5-3615, or Krista Sheets in the office of Rep. Capito at 5-2711.

Sincerely,

Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress

Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress
Co-Chair, Women's Caucus

Shelly Moore Capito
Member of Congress

Ellen Tauscher
Co-Chair, Women's Caucus