



# **Sexual Assaults: Expedited Transfer and Special Victims Counsel Program**

*June 22, 2018*

Fiscal Year 2018 Report to Congress



**Homeland  
Security**

*United States Coast Guard*

# Foreword

June 22, 2018

The following report, “Sexual Assaults: Expedited Transfer and Special Victims Counsel Program,” has been prepared by the U.S. Coast Guard.

House Report 115-239 accompanying the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act (P.L. 115-141) requires the Coast Guard to provide the number of requests for expedited transfer by victims of sexual assault and the number of service members served by its Special Victims Counsel program during FY 2017.

Pursuant to congressional requirements, this report is being provided to the following Members of Congress:

The Honorable Kevin Yoder  
Chairman, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Chairman, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Jon Tester  
Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security.

I am happy to answer any further questions you may have, or your staff may contact my Senate Liaison Office at (202) 224-2913 or House Liaison Office at (202) 225-4775.

Sincerely,



Karl L. Schultz  
Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard  
Commandant





# Sexual Assaults: Expedited Transfer and Special Victims Counsel Program

## Table of Contents

I.	Legislative Language.....	1
II.	Discussion.....	2
	Expedited Transfer Requests by Victims of Sexual Assault .....	2
	Service Members Served by the Special Victims Counsel Program .....	2

# I. Legislative Language

This document responds to the language set forth in House Report 115-239 accompanying the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act (P.L. 115-141).

Specifically, House Report 115-239 states:

The Committee directs the Coast Guard to continue to provide an annual report, due within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, on the number of expedited requests for transfer made by victims of sexual assault during the prior fiscal year, including the number of applications denied and a description of the rationale for each denied request. The report shall also include the number of service members served by the Special Victim Counsel program during the same period.

## II. Discussion

Sexual assault is a crime and a violation of the U.S. Coast Guard's core values. The Coast Guard is making every effort to abolish sexual assault from the Service. With consistent improvements to our Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, we will continue to hold offenders accountable and to offer professional and compassionate support for victims<sup>1</sup> while countering fears of stigma.

### Expedited Transfer Requests by Victims of Sexual Assault

During FY 2017, the Coast Guard received and approved 25 requests for expedited transfers. No requests were denied in FY 2017.

### Service Members Served by the Special Victims Counsel Program

During FY 2017, the Coast Guard Special Victims Counsel Program served 153 victims of sexual assault. Of these 153 victims, 109 were new cases that were opened in FY 2017. Of those 109 victims, 80 were service members. The remaining 29 victims were a mix of dependents, Coast Guard civilian employees, and other civilians.

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<sup>1</sup> As contained in this report, the term "victim" applies to anyone who files an unrestricted report, whether the investigation has been completed or not.