



PREVENTIVE LAW SERIES

FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM



Prepared by:
Legal Assistance Department
Region Legal Service Office Southwest

WHAT IS THE FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM?

The Family Advocacy Program (FAP) is designed to prevent child abuse and spousal abuse, intervene effectively when incidents occur, promote healthy family life, treat those who have a history of abuse, and improve readiness and retention. FAP is primarily composed of professional counselors and social workers who specialize in assisting family members with the challenges of family life. The focus is on treatment and not on the potentially criminal or adverse administrative aspects which some family problems (e.g. domestic violence) may create.

HOW DOES THE PROCESS WORK?

Upon receipt of information that there is a possibility of domestic violence or other family problems within a military family, a board composed of FAP members, a physician, a judge advocate, and a line officer vote to determine whether the facts of a given situation warrants some counseling and treatment on some level. Cases are referred to the FAP from various sources: Fleet and Family Support Center, chaplains, commands, medical, Base Security, individuals, and others. FAP then contacts both the command and the service member to arrange an interview with the family and a social worker. A review committee investigates the case and reports their findings to the case worker. The case worker reports their findings back to the member's command, which may in turn, review the recommendations and order the member to undergo treatment. Cases are then monitored for up to one year.

RESOURCES

Family Advocacy Program Website:

http://www.cnic.navy.mil/ffr/family_readiness/fleet_and_family_support_program/family_advocacy.html