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DOD RELEASES REPORT ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE AT MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMIES – March 15, 2017

WEST POINT, N.Y. – Today, the Department of Defense released its Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the United States Military Service Academies for Academic Program Year (APY) 2015 – 2016.

The report contains self-assessment summaries from the U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy and U.S. Air Force Academy and results from the 2016 Service Academy Gender Relations Survey.

Anonymous survey results indicate that rates of past-year prevalence of unwanted sexual contact for academy men and women returned to levels last seen in in APY 11-12. This reflects a statistical increase from rates measured in APY 13-14. The report showed a prevalence increase in all three Military Service Academies of which USMA remained the lowest among the three.

“I am very concerned about our increased prevalence,” said U.S. Military Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Robert L. Caslen. “Our initial assessment focuses on ensuring we have the correct primary prevention strategy in place. We also brought on an external consultant to examine our programs. Based on their preliminary feedback, discussions with our ‘Cadets Against Sexual Harassment and Assault’ committee and cadet sensing sessions, we believe our prevention and education programs need modification.”

“These modifications will enable us to take the structures we currently have in place and make them even more impactful and effective at creating the change we want to see in preventing sexual violence at West Point and in the Army,” said Caslen.

The report shows that U.S. Military Academy sexual assault reporting continues to go up, which we view as a good thing insofar as it reflects growing confidence in the system among cadets/victims to address these behaviors and to hold perpetrators accountable.

The complete report is available at sapr.mil.