THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC

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MEMORANDUM FOR ALMAJCOM-FOA-DRU/CC
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SUBJECT: Sexual Assault and Mission Readiness

Although we are making strides, sexual assault continues to afflict our Airmen and impacts our ability to effectively accomplish our assigned missions. Sexual assaults are unacceptable and completely contrary to the Air Force mission because they cripple our readiness capabilities, destroy unit morale, and directly affect our ability to assure the parents of this great nation to entrust us with the care of their sons and daughters.

In 2005, the Air Force launched the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program to effectively combat this global crime and protect our Airmen. By now, it should be well established that there is no place in our Air Force for this behavior. Respect for one another is fundamental to building and maintaining our team.

We cannot lose sight of our ultimate goal, which is to eliminate this crime. We have a solid program in place that needs the attention and support of all commanders. We expect commanders at every level to take this problem seriously and to understand the impact of failing to act can have on our Airmen and to the mission. Success requires our continual and consistent attention.

Approaches to combating sexual assault anchor deeply in our Core Values and wingman actions. Preventing sexual assault against our Airmen requires extreme proactive measures and the efforts of all. We are proud of our Airmen who continue the Air Force legacy of delivering the world's finest air, space, and cyberspace capabilities. We must take care of all our Airmen and their families, and sexual assault prevention is vital to that responsibility.

Michael B. Donley
Secretary of the Air Force

Norton A. Schwartz
General, USAF
Chief of Staff