

Confidentiality with Victim Advocates...
The New Privilege Under Military Rule of Evidence 514

- **Under Military Rule of Evidence (MRE) 514, a victim can now refuse to disclose communications made with his or her victim advocate when those conversations:**
 - ✓ are made for the purpose of facilitating advice or supportive assistance, **and**
 - ✓ when they are not intended to be disclosed to a third party

- **A victim advocate, which includes the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), can refuse to disclose these conversations on behalf of the victim**
 - ✓ This privilege applies to all stages of a UCMJ proceeding—from an initial investigation of the crime by law enforcement to a court-martial

- **With this privilege, statements between a victim and victim advocate are given similar protection as statements between a patient and a mental health professional**