

## Student Handout # 5

### Recruiter Responsibilities

#### Scenario 1

Sergeant (SGT) Valverde, a recruiter, went to a party to have a good time and meet new people. At the party, she saw SGT Scott, a friend from her unit. She noticed him looking in her direction even though he was engaged in a conversation. SGT Valverde approached SGT Scott and immediately struck up a conversation. She really liked his looks, and he seemed nice. As SGT Valverde learned more about him, she found that she was attracted to SGT Scott and thought she would enjoy getting to know him better.

SGT Valverde really enjoyed the party. She was surprised and flattered when SGT Scott asked if he could escort her home. When he suggested going to his place, it sounded like a good idea. SGT Valverde was enjoying his company and did not want to do anything that would ruin her chances with him. When they arrived at his apartment, he put on some music and they talked for a little while. Then he kissed her. SGT Valverde did not mind the kiss, but when he started to pull at her blouse, she stopped him. She got up to leave, but he grabbed her hand and apologized for his aggressiveness. He asked her to sit down, reassuring her that he only wanted to talk and would keep his hands to himself. SGT Valverde felt uncomfortable, but she did not want to hurt SGT Scott's feelings and she liked him, so she sat down. Then things changed in a hurry. SGT Scott became extremely sexually aggressive. SGT Valverde was scared and tried to get away, but suddenly SGT Scott grabbed her hands, pulled her down, and ripped open her blouse. SGT Valverde began crying and begging him to stop, but he ignored her request and raped her. SGT Valverde remembered him saying, "Just relax—you know it feels good." SGT Valverde immediately left the apartment and contacted you for help.

Apply your responsibilities as a recruiter to assist SGT Valverde.

1. How can you assist SGT Valverde in dealing with the incident?
2. What can you do to prevent other Soldiers in your unit from becoming offenders or victims?
3. How will you help create and promote a climate that supports victims and ensures their rights are protected?

#### Scenario 2

Sergeant (SGT) Frank and Staff Sergeant (SSG) Roberts are Army recruiters assigned to the recruiting station in Cocoa Beach, FL. SSG Roberts has been trying to convince Natalie, a potential recruit, to enlist in the Army. Every time Natalie visits the recruiting station, SSG Roberts welcomes her with a hug. One Friday afternoon, SSG Roberts meets Natalie and a few of the recruits after work at a local restaurant to discuss their trip to the Jacksonville Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS). After their meeting, SSG Roberts offers Natalie a ride home and she accepts. The next day, Natalie reports to the recruiting station to ride with SSG Roberts to the MEPS. SGT Frank notices that SGT Roberts and Natalie are very friendly with each other. He worries that SSG Roberts is getting too close and personal with Natalie.

1. Are SGT Frank's concerns warranted or is he overreacting?
2. What should SGT Frank do?
3. What is SGT Frank obligated to do?

### **Scenario 3**

You are a recruiter stationed in St. George, UT. For the last two months, two high school seniors, Damian Tolerico and Trey Baker, have been regularly visiting your recruiting station. These two friends cannot get enough of talking to the recruiters and learning about Army life. They are counting the days until they graduate from high school and their parents let them enlist. Because Damian and Trey are in a holding pattern until they graduate, you and the other recruiters let them hang out in the station while you work. One day, while completing some paperwork at your desk, you overhear Damian and Trey talking about the life they envision for themselves in the Army.

“The best part is gonna be the girls,” Damian says. “All girls are begging for it if you’re a guy in uniform.”

“Especially girls who join up—you know they just do it to get laid,” says Trey. “They’ll do anything to anyone.”

“Total nymphos,” agrees Damian.

“Get ‘em drunk and they’re like, ‘Oooh, Soldier, take me home,’” Trey says, laughing, “and then you can do whatever the hell you want.”

You’ve heard enough. You sigh as you put down your pen and push back your chair. Clearly, somebody needs to educate these two young recruits.

1. What rape myths do the young men appear to believe?
2. As a recruiter, what is your responsibility when you encounter a situation like this?
3. What could you say to Damian and Trey to help them see the errors in their thinking?

### **Scenario 4**

You are a recruiter at the Kapiolani Recruiting Station in Honolulu, HI. An old friend from basic training, Staff Sergeant (SSG) Maria Kamatani, is stationed nearby at Schofield Barracks. Although the two of you are not particularly close, you occasionally get together for dinner or drinks with some other old friends. Over the last few months, you have heard gossip that SSG Kamatani was involved with an older, married man, Sergeant Major (SGM) Rick Mortenson. Several people reported seeing them dancing and kissing at a bar in Honolulu. You are not surprised, because you know she had an affair with a married officer at her last assignment, too. While you are worried about her and the impact this choice could have on her career, you figure she is a grown-up and can take care of herself, so you decide to mind your own business.

Today you are awakened by an early call from SSG Kamatani. She is crying and asks if she can come over because she needs to talk to somebody. You agree, and when she arrives, you can see she is in bad shape, with bruises on her arms and a big rip in her sleeve. SSG Kamatani starts telling you her story. She says she and SGM Mortenson started dating five months ago. He told her he was separated from his wife and waiting for a divorce to go through. Everything seemed great at first, and SGM Mortenson was incredibly romantic. After a few weeks, she started to suspect that his statement about being separated was a lie. However, they were having so much fun, she ignored the little nagging concerns. Last week, SSG Kamatani learned not only that SGM Mortenson was still married, but that his wife was pregnant with twins. She felt sick about the affair and decided she needed to end it.

On Saturday night, when SGM Mortenson came to her apartment, SSG Kamatani tearfully told him what she had learned and said she could not continue the relationship. At first, SGM Mortenson broke down crying, said he could not live without her, and tried to hold and kiss her. However, when SSG Kamatani pushed him away and said that she was serious and the relationship had to end, SGM Mortenson grew

violent. He knocked over a lamp and threw a book at her. Then he grabbed SSG Kamatani and forced her onto the bed. While she struggled and screamed, he held her down and raped her. After he left, SSG Kamatani called you—the first person she could think of who would not judge her.

Now she is asking you for advice.

1. What should you tell her?
2. What are her options?
3. Do you think the fact that people already suspect SSG Kamatani of having two adulterous affairs will impact the way they see her now that she is a victim of sexual assault? If so, how? Is that fair?

### **Scenario 5**

Staff Sergeant (SSG) Bradley Proctor is a recruiter at the recruiting station in Fargo, ND. He is good friends with his fellow recruiters from the other services—Marine Gunnery Sergeant (GySgt) Jeff Clark, Air Force Technical Sergeant (TSgt) Cherrisse McKenzie, and Naval Petty Officer Second Class (PO2) Earl Maddox. One Friday night after closing the recruiting station, all four of the recruiters head over to a local bar to unwind and enjoy happy hour. TSgt McKenzie runs into an old friend and spends the first hour catching up over margaritas while the guys throw back beers. As the three men watch TSgt McKenzie talking to her friend, the conversation turns to McKenzie's body.

"That is one fine piece of ass," says GySgt Clark, looking TSgt McKenzie up and down. "Too bad for you guys she only has eyes for me."

"Shut up, man," replies PO2 Maddox. "McKenzie would never go for you! She digs Proctor. She's always hanging out by his desk and laughing at his jokes. She can't get enough of you, Proctor."

SSG Proctor is excited by the conversation. He likes TSgt McKenzie and has wondered if she might be interested in him, too. And there is no denying she's hot.

"I wouldn't mind tapping that," he admits.

"Dude, tonight is your night," says GySgt Clark. "That's her fourth margarita already. Me and Maddox are gonna keep handing her drinks and you're gonna do your smooth thing. I'll guarantee she'll go home with you."

When TSgt McKenzie comes back to join the group, she is already pretty drunk. With a wink at SSG Proctor, GySgt Clark slides a beer over to TSgt McKenzie and crowds her a little so she has to stand closer to SSG Proctor. SSG Proctor buys the next drink for TSgt McKenzie and puts his hand on her hip. She doesn't protest, so he moves in closer. She's leaning on him and flirting a lot; things are going well. They keep drinking and laughing. Later, when TSgt McKenzie excuses herself to go to the bathroom, PO2 Maddox leans in and whispers to SSG Proctor that he and GySgt Clark want to go home with them; they want a turn with her, too. "She's so drunk, she won't know the difference," he says. Suddenly SSG Proctor realizes this situation could turn from an alcohol-fueled potential hookup to a serious sexual assault.

1. From the scenario, identify warning signs of potential sexual assault. What precursor behaviors or "red flags" indicate that TSgt McKenzie is in a compromised position? (Apply knowledge of sexual assault behaviors)
2. TSgt McKenzie has been flirting with SSG Proctor all night and drinking voluntarily. Does that constitute consent for sexual activity?

3. If SSG Proctor really does like TSgt McKenzie, what could/should he have done differently in this situation?