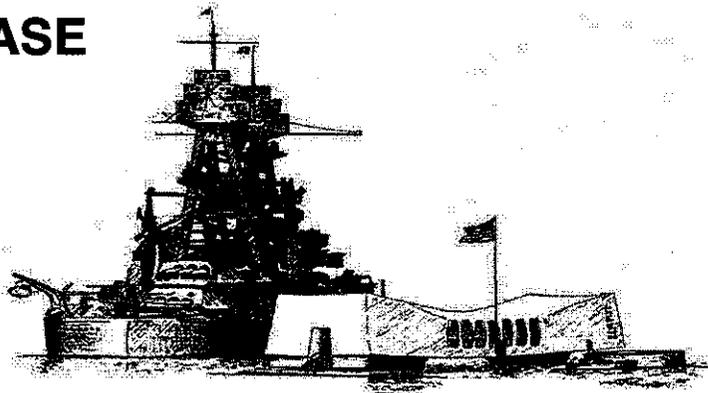


# NAVY NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**POC: LCDR Jane Campbell**

**RELEASE #051-03**

## **October Marks Observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

**Pearl Harbor-** October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. In observance, the Navy Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) at Pearl Harbor and the Family Advocacy Program (FAP) Center will host a proclamation signing ceremony at 10:00 a.m. on October 9, 2003.

The Family Advocacy Program (FAP) Center is a military-wide program created in 1981 by the Department of Defense (DoD) specializing in the treatment and prevention of child abuse and domestic violence. The FAP is one of several FFSC programs designed to enhance Navy family life and improve operational readiness.

In October, the FAPs and the FFSCs worldwide will be conducting an awareness campaign to educate both service members and their families on the impact of domestic violence. FAP services are available to assist both victims and offenders. Services include prevention educational support groups, individual counseling and command training on how to recognize and respond to domestic violence. FFSC services are available to all active duty service members including activated reservists, retirees and DoD civilians in overseas locations. There are a total of fifty-five FFSCs and sixty-seven delivery sites worldwide.

“Domestic violence hurts us all,” said Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Terry Scott. “It scars and traumatizes individuals. It disrupts families. It weakens communities. It affects unit readiness. And it costs human lives.”

Oftentimes, the FAP can help diffuse minor problems before they turn into volatile situations. According to the FAP staff, commands look favorably on those who take the initiative to seek help before ordered to do so.

For more information about the FFSC or FAP Center, call (808) 473-4222 or (808) 471-9458, respectively.

*Any media interested in covering the proclamation signing should contact Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs at (808) 473-2888 by 5:00 p.m. on October 8, 2003. Media will be met at Nimitz Gate Pass and ID Parking Lot at 9:30 a.m. on October 9, 2003.*

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