

Committee on Sexual Assault at Sea: Public Session

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

OPEN SESSION

Purpose

The congressionally mandated Committee on Sexual Assault at Sea will hold a public information gathering session on September 23rd, 2025.

The purpose of this session is to bring together representatives from victim advocacy organizations and/or those working to support survivors. Speakers will share insights from their work that are relevant to the committee's ongoing review and assessment of existing evidence on challenges and prospective solutions associated with sexual assault at sea aboard Coast Guard vessels. Speakers will reflect on how their organizations' services and expertise intersect with the study's statement of task, especially regarding survivor support, access to care, victim rights, and advocacy, in unique or isolated settings such as vessels at sea or while deployed away from home port.

All times listed in Eastern

3:00pm Welcome & Introduction

3:10pm Speaker Reflections:

- Shannon Collins, National Organization of Victim Advocacy
- Meg Garvin, National Crime Victim Law Institute
- Laura McFalls, Women Offshore

3:30pm Discussion and Q&A with the Committee

4:15pm Session Adjourns