The NFL has developed a new Personal Conduct Policy that applies to all NFL personnel — owners, coaches, players, other team employees, game officials and league office employees. The Policy was developed after discussions with more than 150 experts from across the country, including domestic violence and sexual assault experts, advocates and survivors, law enforcement officials, academic experts, business leaders, current and former players and the NFL Players Association.

HOW DOES IT WORK? The policy establishes clear standards of behavior for all NFL personnel. Clubs are obligated to promptly report any potential violation of the policy that comes to their attention and must fully cooperate with any related law enforcement and NFL investigations. When a potential violation occurs, the NFL will make available evaluation and counseling services for the player or employee, as well as resources to assist victims and families. The NFL will follow a fair and predictable process for investigating the incident and ultimately taking disciplinary action if a violation has occurred. Here is how the process works:

POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF PERSONAL CONDUCT POLICY OCCURS

NFL INVESTIGATION
When the league becomes aware of conduct that may violate the policy, it will undertake an investigation.

LAW ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATION
In cases also being investigated by law enforcement, the NFL will avoid any interference and may await the outcome of law enforcement proceedings before completing the NFL investigation.

NFL DISCIPLINARY DECISION
An individual is subject to discipline under the policy if the person is found to have engaged in conduct prohibited by the policy. In such cases, the NFL Special Counsel for Investigations and Conduct will issue the initial discipline for violations of the policy. The Special Counsel may consult with appropriate experts as needed. Depending on the nature of the violation and the person's record, discipline may be a fine, suspension, community service, or a combination of the three. Violations involving domestic violence or sexual assault will result in a baseline six-game suspension without pay, with more if aggravating factors are present, such as the use of a weapon or a crime against a child. A second offense in this category will result in banishment from the NFL.

RESOURCES FOR VICTIMS AND FAMILIES
- Domestic violence and sexual assault experts
- Advocates and survivors
- Law enforcement officials

Additional violations of the personal conduct policy can result in banishment from the NFL.