



## JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS PANEL ON SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE MILITARY

<http://jpp.whs.mil>

October 2, 2014

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **A Public Meeting of the Judicial Proceedings Panel on Sexual Assault in the Military to be Held on October 10, 2014 in Arlington, VA.**

Arlington, VA – A public meeting of the Judicial Proceedings Panel on Sexual Assault in the Military will be held on Friday, October 10, 2014, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Arlington, VA. The meeting will take place at the Holiday Inn Arlington at Ballston, 4610 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203, and is open to the public.

The Judicial Proceedings Panel was established by the Secretary of Defense in June 2014 in accordance with section 576(a)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013. The Judicial Proceedings Panel is an independent federal advisory committee tasked with conducting an independent review and assessment of military judicial proceedings for sexual assault offenses since Fiscal Year 2012, for the purpose of developing recommendations to Congress and the Secretary of Defense for improvements to such proceedings.

The meeting's first hour will be devoted to Panel deliberations on the current and proposed changes to the military statute dealing with rape and sexual assault (Article 120 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)). In addition to testimony the Panel heard about Article 120 during its two full-day meetings in August and September, the Panel members will also consider written submissions and materials they have received, which are available on the JPP website.

The remainder of the meeting will focus on victim privacy issues in sexual assault cases. Specifically, the Panel will focus on its mandates to the review the admission of evidence of a victim's past sexual conduct and a victim's mental health records at pre-trial hearings (also known as "Article 32" hearings), and at courts-martial. The Panel will hear from senior military prosecutors and defense counsel to understand how Military Rules of Evidence 412 and 513, which control admission of evidence of past sexual conduct and mental health records respectively, are applied in practice. The Panel will also hear from distinguished civilian legal experts about sexual assault victim privacy issues and evidentiary practices in civilian jurisdictions.

In addition, the Panel will hear perspectives about victim privacy issues from victim advocacy organizations and practitioners. The meeting includes time reserved for public comment.

For more information, the current meeting agenda, and future updates, please visit the Judicial Proceedings Panel's website at: <http://jpp.whs.mil>. Requests to make public comment, submission of written comments or materials for the Panel's consideration and any other inquiries may be directed to Ms. Julie Carson at [whs.pentagon.em.mbx.judicial-panel@mail.mil](mailto:whs.pentagon.em.mbx.judicial-panel@mail.mil) or (703) 693-3849.