



JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS PANEL ON SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE MILITARY

<http://jpp.whs.mil>

November 3, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A Public Meeting of the Judicial Proceedings Panel on Sexual Assault in the Military to be Held on November 14, 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, November 14, 2014, from 8:00 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 providing the Panel members with a Department of Defense-level perspective about the implementation and oversight of Special Victims' Counsel (SVC) Programs to provide individual legal representation, free of charge, to Service members who are victims of sexual assault while serving on active duty. Additionally, this session's presenters will inform the Panel members about the law, policy, and current practice in civilian jurisdictions and in the military regarding a sexual assault victims' ability to access relevant information in order to protect their privacy and other legal rights during sexual assault investigations, preliminary hearings, trials, clemency, and appeals.

Next, Panel members will hear from the heads of each Service's Special Victims' Counsel Program. The program managers will discuss the structure of the programs, the current status of implementation and operations, performance metrics, and their assessment of the success and value of the programs. Next, the Panel will hear from individual SVCs from the field who will share their experiences, successes, and lessons learned while serving as SVCs. The Panel will also hear from military criminal investigators, military prosecutors, and military defense counsel from the field for additional perspectives on the effect of the SVC program on the military justice system and other stakeholders in the process.

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 or (703) 693-3849.