



JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS PANEL ON SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE MILITARY

<http://jpp.whs.mil>

December 2, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A Public Meeting of the Judicial Proceedings Panel on Sexual Assault in the Military to be Held on December 12, 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, December 12, 2014, from 9:30 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.

This meeting will continue the Panel's review of the Special Victims' Counsel (SVC) programs established by each of the military Services. In August 2013, the Secretary of Defense directed the Services to set up programs to provide individual legal representation, free of charge, to Service members who are victims of sexual assault while serving on active duty. Congress subsequently enacted the SVC programs into law, and the programs became fully operational within each of the Services on January 1, 2014. At the meeting, Panel members will hear perspectives about the SVC programs from victim advocacy organization representatives, sexual assault response coordinators, SVCs and their clients, and the Judge Advocates General and senior lawyers from each of the Services.

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.