



JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS PANEL

May 12, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Tenth Public Meeting of the Judicial Proceedings Panel will be held on May 19th, 2015 in Washington, D.C.

Arlington, VA - The tenth public meeting of the Judicial Proceedings Panel (“JPP” or “the Panel”) will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Washington, D.C. The meeting will take place in Courtroom 20, 6th floor, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, 333 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001, 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.

At this meeting, the Panel will continue its review of retaliation against victims of sexual assault crimes in the military. The meeting will begin with a briefing from Human Rights Watch on its report and recommendations regarding sexual assault and retaliation in the military, scheduled to be released on Monday, May 18, 2015. Following this session, the JPP will hear from active duty and former Service members about their recent experiences regarding retaliation after having made a report of sexual assault or harassment. The Panel will also hear from a victims’ attorney, who is currently representing military survivors of sexual assault in a federal lawsuit filed in March, about the issue of retaliation and remedies for survivors.

During the afternoon sessions, the JPP will hear from sexual assault response coordinators and victim advocates about their work assisting Service members facing retaliation after reporting a sexual assault and the kinds of issues they are observing in the field. The Panel will also hear from Service noncommissioned officers about resolution of retaliation issues in their units and how they train and manage those they supervise to prevent retaliation within the ranks. Finally, the Panel members will hear from installation-level commanders about their work to prevent, manage, and respond to retaliation within their organizations.

The Panel welcomes input from the public on the topic of this meeting or other issues considered by the Panel. 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.

More information about the Panel, including a detailed agenda and materials for this meeting, is available on the JPP’s website at <http://jpp.whs.mil>.