



JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS PANEL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Judicial Proceedings Since Fiscal Year 2012 Amendments Panel Releases its Report on Data Trends and Analysis of Military Justice Case Data for Sexual Assault Offenses Adjudicated in Fiscal Years 2012-2014

Arlington, VA – The Judicial Proceedings Since Fiscal Year 2012 Amendments Panel (JPP) today released a report reviewing trends in the adjudication of adult sexual assault crimes in the military from fiscal years 2012 through 2014. The JPP report made two specific recommendations. The first was that Congress and the Secretary of Defense should collect and analyze case adjudication data utilizing a standardized, document-based collection model similar to systems used by the U.S. Sentencing Commission and developed by the JPP.

The second recommendation of the JPP was that the Department of Defense change its policy that excludes adult-victim sexual assault cases handled by the DoD Family Advocacy Program from the annual Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPRO) reports to Congress. The JPP recommended that DoD include legal disposition information related to all reported adult sexual assault incidents in one annual DoD report.

To conduct its review, the JPP heard from civilian and military experts, reviewed information received from the Department of Defense, the Military Services, the Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics, and the United States Sentencing Commission. For its data analysis of cases, the JPP extracted data from court records, case documents and other publicly available resources, reviewing court-martial documents from 1,761 sexual assault cases resolved in fiscal years 2012 through 2014. The JPP retained as an expert consultant the distinguished criminologist, Dr. Cassia Spohn, to analyze the data and provide statistics on case characteristics and outcomes. These were used in developing the report and recommendations.

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 JPP 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.

More information about the JPP, including the full version of this report and testimony and materials considered by the Panel members in developing these recommendations, is available on the JPP's website at <http://jpp.whs.mil>.