



JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS PANEL

April 13, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Judicial Proceedings Panel Receives Proposed Amendments to Article 6b and Article 70 of the UCMJ and Requests Public Comment

Arlington, VA – At its April 8, 2016 public meeting, the Judicial Proceedings Panel (JPP) received an update about the military's special victims' counsel (SVC) programs from the Services' program managers. During their briefs, the SVC program managers described concerns regarding the rights of sexual assault victims in the appellate process. At the end of the meeting, the SVC program managers collaboratively submitted, as public comment, proposed amendments to Article 6b and Article 70 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice to address current issues regarding the appellate rights of sexual assault victims. The submission is available at <http://jpp.whs.mil/Public/docs/06-Public Comment/SVC VLC Proposed Changes Appellate Practice.pdf>.

The JPP welcomes input and comments regarding this proposal from individuals, stakeholders in the military justice process, and interested organizations. Written comments should be submitted via e-mail to the Judicial Proceedings Panel at whs.pentagon.em.mbx.judicial-panel@mail.mil. The Judicial Proceedings Panel operates under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, and all written comments will be treated as public documents and will be made available for public inspection. The JPP intends to continue its review of this issue at its next public meeting on Friday, May 13, 2016 in Charlottesville, Virginia. Details about the May 13 meeting and the meeting agenda will be available on the JPP website at <http://jpp.whs.mil/>. To allow JPP members time to fully review inputs and comments before the public meeting, please provide submissions by close of business on April 29, 2016.

In addition, the JPP's May 13, 2016 meeting will provide time for in-person public comment. Requests to make an oral statement to the Panel on Article 6b (or other topics under JPP consideration) must be submitted via e-mail by May 6, 2016, to the Judicial Proceedings Panel at whs.pentagon.em.mbx.judicial-panel@mail.mil.