

**JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS PANEL  
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION SET # 1**

**22. Services: Sustainment of the SVC program:**

**a. How many SVC billets are currently authorized for your SVC program?**

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| <b>USA</b>  | The SVC Program is need based. Currently there are zero permanent SVC billets.                                                                                                                               |
| <b>USAF</b> | In FY14 there were 35 billets for SVCs.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>USN</b>  | There are currently 30 judge advocate and 10 Enlisted Yeoman billets authorized for the VLC Program.                                                                                                         |
| <b>USMC</b> | The Marine Corps VLCO is authorized 15 judge advocates (including the OIC and Deputy OIC) and 9 support personnel, as per the Marine Corps Table of Organization (T/O).                                      |
| <b>USCG</b> | A total of seven full time attorney positions (a GS-15, O4, and five O3s) and two support personnel (a Yeoman and a GS-8) are authorized. There are also seventeen collateral duty Special Victims' Counsel. |

**b. How many SVC billets will be authorized in FY15, FY16, and FY17?**

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| <b>USA</b>  | In FY 16 the SVC Program will receive 23 authorizations on the OTJAG Table of Distribution and Allowances (TDA) and it is anticipated that in FY17 the SVC Program will receive 24 Modification Table of Organizational Equipment (MTOE) authorizations.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>USAF</b> | <p>On 1 October 2014, 5 billets were added to bring the total to 40 (as well as one additional billet from Air Force Reserve Command). As of 31 January 2015, 33 of the 40 billets will be filled. The remaining 7 billets are expected to be filled in the Summer 2015 assignment rotation. On 1 April 2015 there is the potential for another 5 billets to be added, to bring the total to 45 SVC billets. The Special Victims' Counsel Division will work closely with HQ AF/JAX, Professional Development Directorate, to review and provide recommendations to The Judge Advocate General on whether adding these 5 billets is necessary based on SVC workload and projected demand for SVC services.</p> <p>The JAG Corps does not currently project adding Special Victims' Counsel billets in FY16 or FY17, but this could change as the Air Force has additional time to assess the Special Victims' Counsel workload and as the program's purview continues to expand.</p> |
| <b>USN</b>  | In FY15 there will be 31 judge advocates and 10 Enlisted Yeoman billets authorized for the VLC Program. In FY16 and FY17, a civilian will replace one judge advocate as the Deputy Chief of Staff for the VLC Program, reducing the number of authorized judge advocates to 30.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>USMC</b> | There is no current plan to increase the previously approved personnel structure.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>USCG</b> | The current billet structure is what is authorized through FY2017. If, now that the new full time billets are available, demand exceeds the capacity of the full time and collateral duty Special Victims' Counsel, the potential exists to revisit staffing and request additional resources.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

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**c. What is the long-term plan for sustaining personnel and funding requirements for the SVC program?**

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| <b>USA</b>  | The Army will designate 47 MTOE and TDA slots as SVC across the Army.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>USAF</b> | <p>The Air Force's long term plan is to sustain the program through assigning the "best qualified" judge advocates in the Air Force to these positions. The general rule is that an SVC will serve in that capacity for a two-year period, or as directed by The Judge Advocate General.</p> <p>Expanding requirements for the program will likely require additional resources, through Program Objective Memorandum (POM) and/or legislative channels. Funding has been provided across the Future Years Defense Program (FYDP) for travel, training, equipment and supplies.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>USN</b>  | <p>All military VLC/SVC billets are currently funded through the Future Years Defense Program (FYDP). The civilian billet is funded beginning in FY16 through the FYDP. The JAG Corps will continually assess demand for VLC services to ensure the Navy has the right number of VLC in the right places to be responsive to victims' needs. Additionally, POM16 has provided NLSC with \$300K each year through the FYDP to support VLC travel, training, supplies, etc. in addition to the referenced civilian billet (and associated labor funds). CNLSC will request additional personnel and/or funding through the POM process as necessary.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>USMC</b> | <p>The current plan is for the number of personnel and funding to remain the same. However, VLCO has been approved to hire eight GS-9 paralegal specialists in FY15 to replace all the enlisted Legal Services Specialists currently serving in supporting billets.</p> <p>The Marine Corps is currently evaluating whether additional personnel will be needed to staff the VLCO. After only one year, the eventual demand for VLC services is not fully known. However, based on apparent trends, the demand for VLC services is likely to grow.</p> <p>The long-term plan for funding the program is to request a fixed budget in each year's POM cycle. As a new requirement, FY14 was the first year for the VLCO. HQMC provided \$164K in FY14 for the VLCO HQ to conduct supervision, training, travel, and for contingencies. Additionally, DoD SAPRO provided approximately \$226K for training and equipment purchases. In FY15, HQMC provided another \$164K, and we have requested approximately \$756K from DoD SAPRO. For POM 16, we have requested \$202K from HQMC and approximately \$681K from DoD SAPRO. Funding requests for future years will be based on the historic needs from the previous years.</p> |
| <b>USCG</b> | <p>The full time SVC positions are permanent positions designated for that role and the Coast Guard does not anticipate difficulties sustaining those positions. If workload indicates additional positions are needed, the Office of the Judge Advocate General is prepared to advocate for any additional positions based on data that would support and justify the request. Funding for the SVC program beyond personnel costs, both for full time and collateral duty SVCs, is centrally managed through the budget for the Office of the Judge Advocate General. Funding is built into the annual budget request</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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|  | for the Judge Advocate General and if demand for SVC services exceeds the budgeted amount there is an existing arrangement for the Judge Advocate General to obtain additional funds for military justice related expenses from the Assistant Commandant for Resources. |
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**d. How is SVC program funding allocated in POM planning or other resource management planning?**

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| <b>USA</b>  | The SVC Program has not been addressed in POM planning as of yet, but the SVC Program has addressed funding issues for FY15.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>USAF</b> | The Air Force provided sustainment funding in the FY14 POM.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>USN</b>  | See answer to 22c: All military VLC/SVC billets are currently funded through the Future Years Defense Program (FYDP). The civilian billet is funded beginning in FY16 through the FYDP. The JAG Corps will continually assess demand for VLC services to ensure the Navy has the right number of VLC in the right places to be responsive to victims' needs. Additionally, POM16 has provided NLSC with \$300K each year through the FYDP to support VLC travel, training, supplies, etc. in addition to the referenced civilian billet (and associated labor funds). CNLSC will request additional personnel and/or funding through the POM process as necessary. |
| <b>USMC</b> | The Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps (ACMC) approved the 18 September 2013 request by the SJA to CMC for an annual \$150,000 O&M budget for VLCO. This was based on estimated costs of approximately \$100,000 for training and certification, \$40,000 for case related travel, and \$10,000 for office management. VLCO is now a Budget Execution Sub-Activity under the Judge Advocate Division Budget Execution Activity (BEA) "SJ." The approved request resulted in the increase of the "SJ" BEA by \$150,000 in FY14 and FY15. Spending analysis will be conducted in-year and reflected in the future Program Objective Memorandum cycle.          |
| <b>USCG</b> | Please see the answer to (c) above.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

**e. Are there plans to expand or narrow the scope of the SVC program from FY14 to FY17? If so, please explain.**

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| <b>USA</b>  | Currently there are no plans to expand or narrow the scope of the SVC program. The Army SVC Program currently represents all Army Active Duty and Army Reserve Component Soldiers so long as the Soldier or alleged perpetrator is in a paid duty status or there is a nexus connecting the sexual assault to military service. The Army SVC Program recently expanded the scope of the program to extend services to child victims of sexual assault. Presently there are at least 70 Active Duty SVC taking care of clients in the legal assistance realm. The fact that the SVC Program has such a robust force allows SVC to maintain face-to-face representation with the clients. |
| <b>USAF</b> | On 24 June 2014, consistent with the FY14 NDAA Section 1716, the SVC Program expanded to include adult victims of stalking and other sexual misconduct under Articles 120a and 120c of the UCMJ and child victims of sexual assault under Article 120b of the UCMJ.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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|             | <p>We are unable to comment on any plans to expand the scope of the program. However, we are aware of pending provisions in the Fiscal Year 2015 National Defense Authorization Act to expand eligibility for Guard and Reserve members.</p> <p>There are no plans to narrow the scope of the program.</p>  |
| <b>USN</b>  | <p>There are no current plans to expand or narrow the scope of the Navy VLCP.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>USMC</b> | <p>The Marine Corps VLCO provides services to eligible victims of all crimes, including minors. The Marine Corps does not plan to expand or narrow the scope of the program; however, eligibility for the program to may expand to include reservists not otherwise eligible under current regulations.</p> |
| <b>USCG</b> | <p>At present the focus of the SVC program is on implementation and execution. Currently, there are no plans to change the scope of the program.</p>                                                                                                                                                        |