



**RESPONSE SYSTEMS TO ADULT SEXUAL ASSAULT CRIMES PANEL**  
875 N. RANDOLPH STREET  
ARLINGTON, VA 22203-1995

September 13, 2013

The Honorable Adam Smith  
Ranking Minority Member, Committee on Armed Services  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Smith:

In compliance with Section 576(a)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013, the Secretary of Defense established the Response Systems to Adult Sexual Assault Crimes Panel ("the Response Systems Panel") to conduct an independent review and assessment of the systems used to investigate, prosecute, and adjudicate crimes involving adult sexual assault and related offenses under section 920 of title 10, United States Code (article 120 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice) for the purpose of developing recommendations regarding how to improve the effectiveness of such systems. The next public meeting of the Response Systems Panel is September 24-25 and it will focus on the role of the commander in the military justice process. The Federal Register notice announcing the meeting is attached for your information as enclosure (1), and the tentative agenda is attached as enclosure (2).

As Chair of the panel, I invite you to provide any additional information that you would like the panel to consider as it addresses the requirements of Section 576. I also invite your participation at future panel meetings.

The Response Systems Panel is an advisory committee under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Unless appropriately marked as classified or otherwise not releasable to the public, all information received by the Response Systems Panel will be treated as publicly releasable.

Thank you for your leadership and support on these important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara S. Jones".

Barbara Jones  
Chair  
Response Systems Panel

Enclosures: (1) Federal Register notice of August 29, 2013  
(2) Response System Panel Agenda for September 24-25, 2013

Copy to:  
The Honorable Howard P. McKeon  
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services