

Response Systems Panel  
Role of the Commander Subcommittee  
Minutes of January 8, 2014 Meeting

The Response Systems to Adult Sexual Assault Crimes Panel (RSP) is a federal advisory committee within the Department of Defense (DoD) operating pursuant to Section 576(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013, the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the Government in Sunshine Act of 1976, and governing federal regulations. The Role of the Commander (RoC) Subcommittee of the RSP held a meeting on January 8, 2014, to hear from retired senior officers and commanders on the commander's role in military justice processes and sexual assault cases. The meeting began at 9:36 a.m. and concluded at 4:34 p.m. at the RSP office at 875 N. Randolph St, Arlington, VA 22203. The transcript of the January 8, 2014 proceedings is incorporated herein by reference.

Participating RoC Subcommittee Members:

The Honorable Barbara S. Jones, Chair  
Vice Admiral (ret.) James Houck  
The Honorable Elizabeth Holtzman  
General (ret.) Carter Ham  
Colonel Lisa Turner (by phone)  
Major General (ret.) John Altenburg  
Ms. Joye Frost

RSP Staff Participants:

Colonel Patricia Ham, RSP Staff Director  
Lieutenant Colonel Kyle Green, RoC Branch Chief

Presenters:\*

Lieutenant General (ret.) Claudia Kennedy, USA\*  
Major General (ret.) Martha Rainville, USAF  
Brigadier General (ret.) Loree Sutton, USA  
Rear Admiral (ret.) Harold Robinson, USN  
Rear Admiral (ret.) Marty Evans, USN  
Colonel (ret.) Paul McHale, USMC  
Captain Lory Manning (ret.), USN  
Hon. Patrick Murphy, former U.S. Army JAG  
Ms. K. Denise Rucker Krepp, former U.S. Coast Guard JAG and former Chief Counsel, U.S.  
Maritime Administration  
General (ret.) Roger Brady, USAF\*  
Lieutenant General (ret.) Mike Gould, USAF

Lieutenant General (ret.) Tom Metz, USA  
Lieutenant General (ret.) John Sattler, USMC  
Vice Admiral (ret.) Scott Van Buskirk, USN  
Major General (ret.) K.C. McClain, USAF\*  
Major General (ret.) Mary Kay Hertog, USAF\*  
General (ret.) Fred Franks, USA\*  
\*by telephone

Other Participants:

Ms. Maria Fried, Designated Federal Official

After the meeting was opened and Judge Jones gave introductory remarks, Ms. Frost and Representative Holtzman briefed the Subcommittee on the site visits to Fort Hood and Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland on December 10 and 13, 2013, respectively; separate minutes of these sessions are on file with the RSP and available upon request.

The Subcommittee then listened to a panel of nine former commanders and officers who support removing the power to convene courts-martial from commanders, which has been proposed by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, the author of the pending bill entitled the Military Justice Improvement Act (MJIA). Speaking in support of the proposal were Generals Kennedy, Rainville, and Sutton; Admirals Robinson and Evans; Colonel McHale; Captain Manning; Mr. Murphy; and Ms. Krepp.

Following a lunch recess, the Subcommittee heard from a panel of the following eight former commanders who held general court-martial convening authority, who oppose removing convening authority from commanders: Admiral Van Buskirk and Generals Brady, Gould, Metz, Sattler, McClain, Hertog, and Franks.

The Subcommittee Chair then led a brief discussion of Subcommittee members' areas of interest and how best to gather additional information. The meeting ended at 4:34 p.m.

I hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.



Barbara S. Jones

Chair

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