

Response Systems Panel
Role of the Commander Subcommittee
Minutes of March 12, 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 March 12, 2014, to consider the pretrial roles of the convening authority and responsibilities of the military judge; to discuss recent legislative and policy changes relating to sexual assault prevention and response; and to conduct deliberations on draft outlines of the Subcommittee's final report. The meeting began at 9:06 a.m. and concluded at 4:49 p.m. at the RSP offices at 875 N. Randolph Street, Suite 150, Arlington, VA 22203. The transcript of the March 12, 2014 proceedings is incorporated herein by reference.

Participating RoC Subcommittee Members:

The Honorable Barbara S. Jones, Chair
Vice Admiral (ret.) James Houck*
Professor Geoffrey Corn
Professor Elizabeth L. Hillman
The Honorable Elizabeth Holtzman
Brigadier General (sel.) Lisa Turner
Ms. Joye Frost
Major General (ret.) John Altenburg
* by telephone

Presenters:

Colonel (ret.) Denise K. Vowell, Chief Special Master, U.S. Court of Federal Claims
Mr. Robert Reed, Former DoD Associate Deputy General Counsel for Military Justice and
Personnel Policy

RSP Staff Participants:

Colonel Patricia Ham, RSP Staff Director
Lieutenant Colonel Kyle Green, RoC Branch Chief
Ms. Shannon Green, RSP Legislative Analyst

Others Participants:

Ms. Maria Fried, Designated Federal Official

After Ms. Fried opened the meeting, the Members heard from Colonel Vowell and Mr. Reed. First, Colonel Vowell discussed a 2004 Army study she chaired while she was an active duty judge advocate in the Army that recommended enhancing the pretrial role of the military judge, particularly to protect victims after the preferral of charges. Mr. Reed discussed changes to the UCMJ and Manual for Courts-Martial involving the power of military judges in relation to that of convening authorities.

After a brief recess, Ms. Green, aided by the attached document entitled Legislative and Policy Changes, reviewed key provisions of the recently enacted National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (2014 NDAA).

After a lunch recess, the Members discussed, for the remainder of the meeting, the four attached draft outlines of sections of the Subcommittee's final report.

The meeting ended at 4:49 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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Attachments:

1. Legislative and Policy Changes (draft 11 Mar 14).doc
2. RoC Assessment Outline - CA Authority (revised 13 Mar 14).doc
3. RoC Assessment Outline - Prevention (revised 13 Mar 14).doc
4. RoC Assessment Outline - Command Climate (revised 13 Mar 14).doc
5. RoC Assessment Outline - Commander Accountability (revised 13 Mar 14).doc