

# EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / COMPLAINT PROCESS

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## If You Are the Victim

- Make an informal complaint. Report inappropriate behavior without initiating a full investigation. This may be most appropriate for minor infractions when the victim simply wants the behavior stopped. Or
- File a formal written complaint on a DA Form 7279 with any of the following agencies below. Complaints must be filed within 60 calendar days of the incident. Complaints made after 60 calendar days may be pursued at the commander's discretion. Or
- Call the Equal Opportunity Hot Line at your installation to clarify whether an incident or behavior qualifies as harassment or discrimination.
  - (245) 286-7908
  - (254) 466-9910
  - Brigade EOA

## If Behavior Persists

- File a formal written complaint on a DA Form 7279 with any of the following agencies below. Complaints must be filed within 60 calendar days of the incident. Complaints made after 60 calendar days may be pursued at the commander's discretion.

## Agencies available for filing the complaint

- Chain of Command
- EO Advisor
- Inspector General
- Housing Referral Office
- Judge Advocate General
- Military Police or Criminal Investigator
- Chaplain
- Medical Agency

## **Timeline for EO Complaints**

### **3 Days**

Complaints, except those filed with the IG, must be acted upon within three calendar days. Complaints filed with an agency against a member of the Chain of Command will be referred to the next higher commander in the chain. All formal complaints will be reported within 72 hours to the first General Courts-Martial Convening Authority (GCMCA) in the Chain of Command. Provide a progress report to the GCMCA 20 days after the date on which the investigation commenced and 14 days thereafter until completion.

### **14 Days Later**

The commander or the investigating officer appointed by the commander has 14 calendar days to investigate the allegations. The commander will meet with the victim and the subject(s) of the complaint to discuss the outcome and results. A 30-day extension may be granted from the next higher commander if circumstances require it. Further extensions can be approved only by the first General Officer in the Chain of Command. Complainants must be notified of extensions.

### **7 Days Later**

The complainant and/or subject(s) of the complaint have seven calendar days to appeal to the next higher commander if he or she is dissatisfied with the investigation results or actions taken. That commander has 14 days to act on the appeal and provide written feedback on the results. Final decisions on complaints/appeals not resolved at brigade level rest with the General Courts-Martial Convening Authority.

### **30-45 Days Later**

30-45 days after final decision of the formal complaint (substantiated and unsubstantiated), an assessment is conducted by the Equal Opportunity Advisor to determine the effectiveness of any corrective actions taken and to detect and deter any incidents of reprisal. Reports and recommendations are submitted to the Commander on a DA Form 7279-1 NLT 45 days following final decisions made on complaints.