## WHO HAS TO PROVE THAT DISCRIMINATION OCCURRED?

The "Burden of Proof" rests with the <u>aggrieved</u>. The complaint must put forth evidence that will support a reasonable inference of Race, Color, Religion, Sex, Age (40+), National Origin, Disability (Mental or Physical), Genetic Information and/or Reprisal (for engaging in Protected Activity) discrimination in employment matters subject to control of the Army without fear of coercion, restraint, interference, harassment, intimidation or retaliation.

Once that occurs, management must articulate a legitimate, non-discriminatory job related reason(s) for their action(s).

The burden then shifts to the <u>aggrieved</u> to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that management's explanation (articulated reason) was merely a pretext (mask or cover up for discrimination).



## For additional information, please contact your servicing EEO Office.

Fort Eisenhower Garrison Equal Employment Opportunity Office 271 Heritage Park Lane, Bldg. 35200, Room 514 Fort Gordon GA 30905

Tel: (706) 791-4551





Resources:

https://home.army.mil/gordon/





### FORT GORDON EEO

# FILING AN EEO COMPLAINT

**Informational Brochure** 



#### WHAT is the problem?

Is the problem related to a matter dealing with employment in which the Army has control?

- Appointment
- Promotion
- Reassignment
- Separation/Termination
- Reprimand
- Evaluation/Performance Appraisal
- Time and Attendance
- Retirement
- Assignment of Duties
- Pay (Including Overtime)
- Harassment
- Reprisal
- Award
- Training
- Reinstatement
- Work Conditions
- Other

#### WHEN did the incident or action occur?



Was it within the last 45 calendar days?

#### WHO is involved?

As the aggrieved, are you...

- o A current civilian employee
- o A former civilian employee
- An applicant for employment

Who took or failed to take the action in question?

- A supervisor
- A co-worker
- A visitor
- A contract worker
- Other

#### **HOW** were you treated differently?

Were you denied a job benefit?

- Promotion
- Training
- Award
- Request for Leave
- Poor Performance Evaluation
- o Other

#### WHAT harm have you suffered?

- Adverse material in your personnel file
- Adverse impact on performance rating/appraisal
- Treated unfairly (no one else was treated in the manner you were)
- Other

WHY do you feel you were treated differently?



## Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964:

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, protects groups from discrimination in employment situations. The protected activity (group) forms the basis of your EEO Complaint.

Ask yourself, was the action taken against you because of your protected status as listed below) and only because of your status based on:

- Race/Color
  - -Caucasian/White
  - -African American/Black
  - -American Indian/Alaskan Native
  - -Asian
  - -Pacific Islander
  - -Hispanic
- o Sex
- o National Origin
- Religion
- o Age (40+)
- o Disability (Mental/Physical)
- o Genetic Information
- Reprisal (have you engaged in the EEO process

as a complainant or witness, etc?)

#### Final approach to your questioning

Now that you have taken all the information into consideration, ask yourself:

- If it were not for my race, color, sex, age religion, national origin, disability, or reprisal, would this action have happened?
- Am I better qualified than the person who was selected? If so, was it because of my race, color, sex, age religion, national origin, disability, or reprisal that I was not selected?
- In a termination issue, are the reasons stated by management in the termination letter false? Did the incidents occur?
- o If the incidents did not occur, then why was I terminated, disciplined or received other action?
- o Was it because of my race/color, sex, age, religion, national origin, disability or reprisal?