



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS III ARMORED CORPS AND FORT HOOD
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COMMANDING GENERAL'S
POLICY LETTER # 6

AFZF-CG

27 JUN 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: III Armored Corps and Fort Hood Military Justice Policy

1. Applicability. The Commanding General, III Armored Corps exercises General Court-Martial Convening Authority (GCMCA) for two distinct Commands: 1) the Army Corps: III Armored Corps and 2) the Secretary of the Army designated Command: Fort Hood (Department of the Army General Order 3, dated 19 January 1981 (establishing the GCMCA authority of the Commander, III Corps and Fort Hood), Department of Army General Order No. 2023-10, dated 9 May 2023 (redesignating the GCMCA "III Corps and Fort Hood" to "Fort Cavazos"), and Department of Army General Order No. 2025-14, dated 11 June 2025 (redesignating the GCMCA "Fort Cavazos" to "Fort Hood")). Unless specifically stated below, this policy applies to all personnel assigned or attached to the III Armored Corps and all subordinate units under the operational control (OPCON) or administrative control (ADCON) of either III Armored Corps or Fort Hood. This policy also applies to all personnel and tenant units assigned, attached, or otherwise performing duties at Fort Hood, Texas. This policy is effective immediately and will remain in effect until changed, revised, or rescinded by this headquarters. This policy supersedes all previous III Corps and FH Regulations 27-1-10, including III Corps and FH Reg 27-10, dated 13 April 2016, III Corps and FH Reg 27-10, dated 7 May 2020, and Amendment to Fort Hood Local Regulation 27-10, dated 1 November 2022.

2. Purpose. This memorandum prescribes policies and procedures governing the administration of military justice within the GCMCA jurisdiction of both the Commanding General, III Armored Corps and the Commanding General, Fort Hood. This policy also outlines the Commanding General's notification requirements, prescribes withholdings to dispose of certain offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), and directs mandatory action for certain offenses. Failure to comply with this policy letter does not impact the validity of any action or confer rights, not otherwise in existence, upon an accused, subject, or respondent. Commanders, with the assistance of their servicing judge advocate (JA), will exercise independent judgment in each case based on its unique facts and circumstances. If a case is under the authority of the Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC), Commanders, with the assistance of their JA, will coordinate with the OSTC to support the due administration of justice and care for the Service Members and Families within their responsibility.

3. Uniform Code of Military Justice and Court-Martial Jurisdiction.

a. This memorandum and Enclosure 1 set forth the subordinate Court-Martial Convening Authorities jurisdictional alignment within the III Armored Corps and Fort Hood immediate GCMCA jurisdiction. Special Court-Martial Convening Authority (SPCMCA) jurisdictions and Summary Court-Martial Convening Authority (SCMCA) jurisdictions subordinate to the III Armored Corps and Fort Hood GCMCA are set forth in Enclosure 1 to this memorandum.

b. The Commanding General, III Armored Corps, is the superior GCMCA for the 1st Infantry Division (Fort Riley, KS); 1st Armored Division (Fort Bliss, TX); 1st Cavalry Division (Fort Hood, TX); and 4th Infantry Division (Fort Carson, CO). Each subordinate division will publish a jurisdictional alignment for all commands under their GCMCA. Paragraphs 4-7 of this policy – unless otherwise noted in this policy or required under existing law, policy, or Army Regulation – apply specifically to III Armored Corps and Fort Hood. Subordinate GCMCAs will notify me of misconduct that involves an officer in the grade of O-6 or above, CW5, or a Command Sergeant Major (CSM) of a brigade-level command or higher, within 7 calendar days of receipt of allegation. If a brigade level or higher commander of any subordinate command is suspended, the GCMCA for that commander will notify me of that decision.

c. The Commanding General, III Armored Corps and Fort Hood, is the superior GCMCA for First Army Division West. Authority to withhold General and Special Courts-Martial is withheld to the Commanding General of Fort Hood. The jurisdictional alignment First Army Division West will be published for the commands for which they exercise ADCON with UCMJ Authority.

d. The Commanding General, III Armored Corps and Fort Hood, is the GCMCA for all Army units within the Fort Hood area of responsibility not otherwise assigned a GCMCA. The Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion (HHBN) will exercise universal SCMCA jurisdiction for any company, battery, or troop not otherwise assigned to a SCMCA or SPCMCA in this memorandum. All Service Members not assigned to a unit for UCMJ purposes, and all elements without a local company commander that are not otherwise provided for in this memorandum or Enclosure 1 are administratively attached to HHBN, III Armored Corps, for UCMJ purposes. The Commanding General, III Armored Corps and Fort Hood, is the GCMCA for personnel assigned or attached to HHBN, III Armored Corps, and all the units outlined in Enclosure 1 to this memorandum. The Commanding General, III Armored Corps and Fort Hood is the approval authority for any changes to this jurisdictional alignment.

e. The authority to refer charges to a special court-martial empowered to impose a bad conduct discharge is withheld to me and the Commanding Generals of the divisions listed in paragraph 3b of this memorandum. The Commanding General of First Army Division West and all SPCMCA listed in Enclosure 1 to this memorandum may refer

charges to a judge-alone special court-martial, unless such authority is withheld by a GCMCA. Special courts may be convened by "the commanding officer of a brigade, regiment, detached battalion, or corresponding unit of the Army" (Article 23(a)(3), UCMJ), while summary courts may be convened by "the commanding officer of a detached company or other detachment of the Army" (Article 24(a)(2), UCMJ). I determine whether a command is "separate and detached" for purposes of Articles 23(a)(3) and 24(a)(2), UCMJ; that determination will be made IAW R.C.M. 504.

4. Withholding of Certain Offenses.

a. Covered Offenses. Covered offenses include the following Articles of the UCMJ: 117a, Wrongful Broadcast; 118, Murder; 119, Manslaughter; 119a, Death or Injury of Unborn Child; 120, Rape and Sexual Assault; 120a, Depositing Obscene Materials in the Mail; 120b, Sexual Assault of a Child; 120c, Other Sexual Misconduct; 125, Kidnapping; 128b, Domestic Violence; 130, Stalking; 132, Retaliation; 134, Child Pornography; 134, Sexual Harassment; and Conspiracy, Solicitation, or Attempts of all known or related offenses. In accordance with R.C.M. 303A, a special trial counsel has the exclusive authority to determine if a reported offense is a covered offense.

(1) It is mandatory for unit legal offices to coordinate all allegations of covered UCMJ offenses with the OSTC. Commanders will provide all required logistical and administrative support to the investigation and legal processing of covered offenses, even when OSTC retains jurisdiction. Such support includes flagging the subject, ensuring expiration of term of service (ETS) extensions are processed for any subject of a covered offense investigation, providing care for the Service Members (whether victim or accused) and Families, and facilitating access to services offered by the Army for the impacted person. Commanders retain responsibility for tracking the status of covered cases through their supporting legal offices. Commanders will not make a final decision on disposition of covered offenses until unit legal personnel have coordinated with OSTC, and OSTC has deferred authority to act to the command. However, commanders may take preliminary actions in anticipation of deferral, to include medical screening for separation actions, command referrals for treatment or counseling services, or other administrative actions that are not punitive in nature and do not separate the Service Member from active duty.

(2) Disposition of any covered offense or collateral misconduct that OSTC has deferred to the command, whether committed by the alleged perpetrator or victim, is withheld to the SPCMCA.

(3) When a covered offense is deferred to a command falling within the IIIAC GCMCA annotated in paragraph 3e above, specifically including founded investigation involving domestic violence under Article 128b UCMJ, the SPCMCA will review the investigation and determine if substantiated offenses are "minor." These decisions may not be delegated to a subordinate commander.

(i) Substantiated offenses are those that are supported by a preponderance of evidence. The determination of whether an offense is "minor" is a matter of the SPCMCA's discretion and should be made after consideration of all facts and circumstances involved in the incident, and consultation with their servicing legal advisor.

(ii) If the SPCMCA determines the substantiated covered offense is "minor," the SPCMCA may initiate administrative separation or officer elimination or implement a plan to rehabilitate the Soldier. All determinations that an offense is minor will be recorded in the investigative file.

(iii) If the SPCMCA determines the substantiated covered offense is not a "minor" offense, the SPCMCA must ensure that administrative separation of enlisted Soldiers is initiated pursuant to AR 635-200 or refer the action to the GCMCA for initiation of elimination of officers pursuant to AR 600-8-24. All substantiated investigations of domestic violence (minor or not minor) require initiation of separation.

(4) If a covered offense (including domestic violence) is alleged to have occurred against a spouse, intimate partner, or an immediate family member as defined by Article 128b, UCMJ, the commander of that Service Member will physically separate the Soldier from the alleged victim(s) for a minimum of seven (7) calendar days. The commander will issue a Military Protective Order (MPO) protecting all alleged victims or family members of alleged victims. That MPO will apply for a minimum of seven (7) calendar days and the chain of command will coordinate with the installation Director of Emergency Services (DES) for entry of the MPO into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) database within three (3) calendar days of receiving the report. Brigade Commanders, on a case-by-case basis, may authorize the issuance of a written no-contact order rather than a MPO for sexual harassment and domestic violence cases that are deemed minor. A command decision to issue a no-contact order instead of a MPO will be communicated to the OSTC. Subordinate GCMCAs may modify the "cooling off" separation and MPO requirements within their formations.

b. Non-Covered Offenses.

(1) Hazing and Bullying Offenses. The authority to dispose of alleged hazing and bullying offenses, as defined by AR 600-20, para. 4-16, is withheld to commanders who exercise SPCMCA authority.

(2) Offenses Involving a Firearm. The authority to dispose of weapons-related offenses, including registration, is withheld to the first GCMCA and their deputy commander. GCMCAs or their deputy commanders, may, on a case-by-case basis, return actions to lower-level commanders for disposition at the request of the lower-level commander or when the GCMCA or their deputy commander determines that such

disposition at a lower level is appropriate. All allegations of misconduct involving weapons will be considered and disposed of fairly and impartially IAW applicable laws, regulations, and statutes.

(3) Drug-related Offenses The authority to dispose offenses involving drugs, controlled substances, controlled substance analogues (to include "spice" and "bath salts"), other intoxicating substances, and drug paraphernalia is withheld to commanders who exercise SCMCA.

(4) Drunk or Impaired Driving Reprimands. Pursuant to AR 190-5, information regarding the circumstances described below will be immediately forwarded through command, as well as JA channels to the OSJA, for preparation of a general officer memorandum of reprimand (GOMOR). This mandatory initiation of a GOMOR applies when there is evidence of drunk or impaired driving, a blood or breath alcohol level greater than .08, or when a Service Member refuses to provide a breath or blood sample at the request of law enforcement. Filing determinations will be made in accordance with AR 600-37. Disposition of offenses of drunk or impaired driving committed on the Fort Hood Military Reservation, regardless of the Service Member's chain of command is withheld to the US Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas. This withholding does not affect the Command's authority to initiate separation or impose administrative sanctions for drunk or impaired driving offenses, such as suspension of installation driving privileges, bars to reenlistment, or referral for remedial driving classes or alcohol or substance abuse counseling or programs.

5. Senior Leader Misconduct.

a. Withholding Policy. The authority to dispose of alleged misconduct committed by personnel in the grades of E-8 and above, or an E-7 assigned to a first sergeant position, is withheld to the first Commanding General in the Service Member's chain of command. Those personnel are considered senior leaders for the purposes of this policy. Within the IIIAC GCMCA outlined in paragraph 3e above, requests for delegation of disposition authority from me may be made through the III Armored Corps Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) and approved on a case-by-case basis. Nothing in this paragraph alters the statutory withholding of covered offenses to the OSTC. Requests for disposition authority of covered offenses cannot not be approved prior to deferral by OSTC. Commanders exercising SPCMCA authority or below do not have the authority to take adverse action on personnel in the aforementioned grades without an approved delegation of disposition authority from a GCMCA. Adverse action includes, but is not limited to, referral of charges, approval of elimination or separation, nonjudicial punishment, non-punitive reprimands issued pursuant to AR 600-37 (Unfavorable Information), and relief for cause/referred evaluation reports based on misconduct. Adverse action does not include preferral of charges, initiation of separation, developmental counseling to correct deficiencies in work performance, or temporary suspension from duties pending an open investigation. For this policy, misconduct

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includes but is not limited to any allegation of a violation of the UCMJ, federal or state criminal codes, or any punitive service regulation or policy. Misconduct does not include deficiencies in work performance or judgment not otherwise in violation of law, regulation, or policy.

b. Notification. I will be notified of all senior leader misconduct falling under my immediate GCMCA within three (3) calendar days of receiving an allegation. This notification will come through the senior leader's SPCMCA, or the acting SPCMCA to me and the III Corps SJA via e-mail with a summary of the alleged misconduct and the Command's recommended way ahead. If the allegations involve a senior noncommissioned officer stationed at Fort Hood, the III Armored Corps Command Sergeant Major will be included on the e-mail. The recommended way ahead may include, when appropriate, the initiation of an administrative investigation appointed by the SPCMCA or subordinate commander.

c. Investigation. If the misconduct involves a law enforcement investigation, then the Command will ensure the allegations are reported to the appropriate agency. If a subordinate commander is authorized to initiate an administrative investigation, the investigation may be appointed, and the findings approved by that commander. If there are no adverse findings or recommendations for adverse action against the senior leader, then the SPCMCA, or acting SPCMCA, may approve all findings and will send a follow-up notification to me and the SJA, and the CSM when appropriate. This follow-up e-mail will provide notification of the unsubstantiated allegation and approved investigation. If there is an adverse finding or recommendation for adverse action against a senior leader, the appointing commander may approve the findings but must forward the investigation through the SJA for my review and decision on disposition.

d. Suspension of Senior Leaders. In the event a commander temporarily suspends a senior leader within the IIIAC GCMCA from his or her assigned duties, that commander will immediately notify me of that decision, with the supporting facts. While any commander may temporarily suspend a subordinate, final action to relieve an officer from any command position will not be taken without written approval from the first GCMCA in that senior leader's chain of command. Similarly, final action to relieve any senior noncommissioned officer falling under the IIIAC GCMCA from responsibility will not be taken until after written notification to me and the III Armored Corps Command Sergeant Major. Nothing in this paragraph limits a rating official's authority. Rating officials will comply with regulatory requirements specified in AR 623-3.

6. Pretrial Confinement. Any commander may order the imposition of pretrial confinement (PTC) of Soldiers assigned or attached to their command. Prior to ordering any Soldier into PTC, the command must coordinate with their Division SJA through their servicing judge advocate. If the Soldier is alleged to have committed a covered offense or if OSTC has exercised disposition authority, the Command must coordinate with the servicing trial counsel and consider a recommendation by the special trial

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counsel. Commanders, through their trial counsel, must notify the Fort Hood Confinement Liaison Office (CLO) in advance of ordering a Service Member into pretrial confinement.

7. Preliminary Hearing Officers. Within the IIIAC GCMCA, the Chief of Military Justice, will coordinate with the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate to detail a JA to serve as a preliminary hearing officer pursuant to Article 32, UCMJ, and R.C.M. 405, before the preferral of charges. All JAs not serving as a trial counsel, special trial counsel, military judge, or special victim counsel, will be available to serve as Preliminary Hearing Officers (PHOs).

8. This policy is effective immediately and will remain in effect until rescinded or superseded.

10. The point of contact for this memorandum is the Chief of Justice, III Armored Corps and Fort Hood at 254-248-4258.

Encl

1. III Armored Corps Jxd. Alignment



KEVIN D. ADMIRAL
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding