

3ID Legal Assistance Office Newsletter Volume 9, November/December 2024

"Soldier First, Lawyer Always"



Welcome back to the latest edition of the 3ID Legal Assistance Newsletter! This edition of the Legal Assistance Newsletter provides basic guidance regarding General Officer Memorandums of Reprimand (GOMOR).

By CPT Patrick R. Finn

What is a GOMOR?

A GOMOR is a formal letter of reprimand from a general officer in the Service Member's chain of command. Here at Fort Stewart, they are typically signed by the Commanding General (CG). A GOMOR is administrative in nature and is *not* a punishment. Soldiers who receive a DUI, including a DUI less-safe, will be initiated for a GOMOR.

In accordance with AR 600-37, when a Soldier receives a GOMOR, the CG will determine whether to file it in the Soldier's local file or their Army Military Human Resource Record (AMHRR).

<u>Local file</u>: The GOMOR will remain in the service member's file for 18 months or until a transfer to a new general court-martial jurisdiction (usually a PCS).

<u>AMHRR</u>: Also called "permanently filed." The GOMOR will remain in the Soldier's file indefinitely. It can be removed by appealing to the authority who directed filing or the Department of the Army Suitability Evaluation Board. A permanently filed GOMOR can impact promotion, selection for certain positions or schools, and can lead to an administrative separation action.

I received a GOMOR, now what?

Bring the GOMOR and supporting documents to the Legal Assistance Office as quickly as possible!

You have the right to submit a rebuttal statement and supporting documents for the CG to consider before making a filing determination. When you receive the GOMOR, make sure that you are given the complete packet, including any police reports or other evidence.

After receipt, you are given **7 calendar days** to submit your rebuttal. Because of the time limit, it is crucial that you come to the Legal Assistance Office (LAO) quickly so we can schedule an appointment and/or request an extension. A Legal Assistance Attorney will discuss the case with you and help you prepare the rebuttal statement.

Along with your rebuttal statement, we recommend that you gather and submit awards, positive evaluations, and letters of support from leaders who know you well, both past and present, who would support a local filing.

In the case of a DUI, it is important to note that the outcome of the civilian criminal case will not determine how the GOMOR is filed.

Once your rebuttal and supporting documents are ready, you will submit them through your chain of command, and the commander at each echelon will offer their filing recommendation after reviewing what you submitted.

If you have inquiries or would like to schedule an appointment with one of our attorneys, please email us at: usarmy.stewart.forscom.mbx.fsga-legal-assistance-office@army.mil.

Disclaimer: These materials have been prepared for general informational purposes only and are not legal advice. This information is not intended to create an attorney-client relationship, and receipt of it does not constitute an attorney-client relationship. Reference to particular credit services does not imply DoD endorsement.

Legal Assistance Team

CPT Kaylyn A. Sands Chief, Legal Assistance

LEGAL ASSISTANCE ATTORNEYS

Marguerite M. Winnier Lindsey A. West CPT Patrick R. Finn

LEGAL ASSISTANCE PARALEGAL

Donald J. Williams

SPECIAL VICTIMS' COUNSEL

CPT Noah E. Duncan CPT Taylor K. Cox CPT Robert E. Schaaf

SPECIAL VICTIMS' COUNSEL PARALEGAL

SSG David Perez

LOCATIONS

Main Office Fort Stewart

944 William H. Wilson Ave. BLDG 620 Suite 119 Fort Stewart, GA 31314 571-801-5149 571-801-5113

HOURS OF OPERATION M-W 0900-1600 TH-1300-1600

FR-0900-1500

HAAF Office

638 Horace Emmet Wilson Blvd. BLDG 1211 Hunter Army Airfield, GA 31409

> HOURS OF OPERATION T-TH 0900-1600

Visit us on the web at:

https://home.army.mil/stewart/about/ Garrison/garrison-staff-offices/legalassis