



FORT LEONARD WOOD MANEUVER SUPPORT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
OFFICE OF THE STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE
Legal Assistance Office



GOMORs

What are Letters and Memos of Reprimand?

A Letter of Reprimand (LOR) is an administrative warning, or censure, given to a Soldier for failure to comply with established standards or policies. A LOR may be filed either locally or in your permanent personnel file. Reprimands fall under the category of “unfavorable information.”

A General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand (GOMOR) is an LOR written by a general officer concerning a Soldier under his or her command. At the general officer’s discretion, a GOMOR may be filed locally or in the permanent file. A GOMOR may also be filed in the AMHRR (permanent) restricted file. See Army Regulation (AR) 600-37, Unfavorable Information, Chapter 7.

What are the Consequences of Receiving a GOMOR/LOR

Aside from the negative stigma associated with them, a locally filed GOMOR /LOR in a Military Personnel Records Jacket can be seen by the Soldier’s chain of command, but not by a promotion board, and it will be removed after a change of duty station or after 3 years, whichever is sooner. A permanently filed GOMOR/LOR will remain in the performance portion of the Army Military Human Resource Record (AMHRR) and can be seen by Army Human Resources Command (HRC) and promotion boards. It will stay there through the Soldier’s career unless it is appealed for removal or transferred to the restricted portion of the AMHRR. Information in the restricted file of the AMHRR is not generally viewable by promotion or selection boards. Exceptions are DA selection boards, if the board president makes a specific written request; the CSM/SGM, SGM Academy, and CSM/SGM retention boards, and some government agencies may view restricted file material by written request. For more information on who may view restricted file material, see AR 600-8-104, para. 2-6 & 2-7. Receiving a GOMOR may prevent you from being promoted. The negative information may also be addressed in your NCOER/OER. A negative NCOER and GOMORs may trigger a Qualitative Management Program (QMP) review. The QMP is designed to deny NCOs continued service on qualitative grounds if they do not meet retention standards for continued service. Reprimands issued as punishment under an Article 15 proceeding will be filed with the Report of Proceedings. For officers, a GOMOR can also be a later basis for separation.

How do I Respond to a LOR/GOMOR

Upon receipt of a reprimand, you will be notified of the opportunity to respond, and the date by which the response must be submitted. This response is referred to as “rebuttal



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matters.” Rebuttal matters should reply to the reprimand as denying the allegations or requesting that the reprimand be filed in a local or restricted file. You should address the underlying facts and provide mitigating evidence. There are generally two strategies to

Appealing GOMORs

There are two options when it comes to getting a GOMOR off of your record: (1) DASEB; or (2) ABCMR.

Department of the Army Suitability Evaluation Board (DASEB)

The DASEB consists of officers in the grade of colonel and is the initial appeal authority for removal, alteration, or transfer of unfavorable information from the AMHRR. The DASEB will consider appeals from Soldiers in grades below E-6 only as an exception to policy granted by the DCS, G-1.

There are several ways DASEB can remove unfavorable information (GOMOR) per AR 600-37 Paragraph 6-3.

1. Filing authorities who directed the filing in the AMHRR of an administrative memorandum of reprimand, admonition, or censure, may request its **revision**, alteration, or removal if later investigation determines it was untrue or unjust, in whole or in part.
2. Soldiers who believe unfavorable information filed in their AMHRR is untrue or unjust may submit an appeal to request the **removal** of that information on the basis that it is untrue or unjust. Such appeals must include sufficient clear and convincing evidence that shows the unfavorable information is either untrue or unjust in whole or in part.
 - a. DASEB will not consider appeals that merely allege an injustice or error without supporting evidence.
 - b. There is no time limit for removal appeals.
 - c. Evidence that shows: an official investigation showing the initial investigation was untrue or unjust; decisions made by an authority above the imposing authority overturning the basis for the adverse documents; notarized witness statements; historical records; official documents; and/or legal opinions.
3. Soldiers who believe that unfavorable information filed in their AMHRR, in the form of a memorandum of reprimand, admonition, or censure, or records or proceedings pursuant to UCMJ, Art. 15, have served their intended purpose, may submit an appeal in the case of an UCMJ, Art. 15, to request its **transfer** to the restricted portion of the AMHRR in accordance with paragraph AR 600-37 7-2d(3). Such appeals must include evidence that:
 - a. The intended purpose has been served.



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- i. Include the time elapsed since the filing.
 - ii. The Soldier has indicated remorse for the actions which caused the unfavorable information to be filed.
 - b. The Soldier has received at least one positive evaluation report (not academic) since its imposition.
 - i. There is no evidence or indication of a repeat of the offense.
 - c. The transfer is in the best interest of the Army.
 - i. The Soldier's chain of command at the time of the imposition and/or imposing authority support the transfer in the form of a memorandum.
 - ii. Memorandum from the original imposing authority supporting the transfer.
 - iii. In cases where an imposing authority/unit no longer exists, the Soldier's next higher command/unit may support the transfer.

Appeals must be submitted to the DASEB at Army Review Boards Agency. The DASEB mailing address is: 251 18th Street South, Suite 385, Arlington, VA 22202-3531.

1. A sample Department of the Army Suitability Evaluation Board Appeal memorandum can be found at ARBA's website:
<https://arba.army.pentagon.mil/unfavorable.html> /.
2. If the DASEB denies an appeal, a copy of the memorandum of notification regarding the denial will be placed in the commendatory and disciplinary portion of the performance record. The appeal itself and the record of the proceedings will be placed in the restricted portion of the AMHRR.
3. If DASEB denies the initial appeal, a SM has to wait a year to appeal again.

Army Board For Correction of Military Records (ABCMR)

The ABCMR considers individual applications that are properly brought before it. In appropriate cases, it directs or recommends correction of military records to remove an error or injustice. It consists of civilians employed by the Department of Army.

Per AR 15-185, To request the ABCMR to remove a GOMOR from your record, you must:

1. file an application within 3 years after an alleged error or injustice is discovered or reasonably should have been discovered.
2. Exhaust all administrative remedies to correct the alleged error or injustice.
3. Show by a preponderance of the evidence that there was error or injustice.
 - a. The ABCMR presumes that there was no administrative error;
 - b. If no new evidence is presented to the ABCMR when requesting a removal of the GOMOR, the ABCMR may return the application.
4. Fill out DD Form 149 and submit to the proper authority.