

**Recommendation #23**  
**Military Naturalization**

On March 20, 2006, the Ombudsman recommended that USCIS *eliminate fingerprint requirements for active duty United States military personnel in naturalization application processes.*

On January 26, 2006, USCIS responded to the Ombudsman's recommendation. Although we agreed with the intent, we did not concur with waiving the fingerprint-based criminal history check at this time. However, we are working with the Department of Defense (DoD), Office of Personnel Management, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to develop a fingerprint process that will make use of fingerprints taken for DOD purposes, to the extent possible, thereby eliminating the need for a soldier to appear for another fingerprint appointment.

The Ombudsman did not have any follow-up to the USCIS response and we consider this recommendation closed.