

Air Force Sexual Assault Courts-Martial

2008 Significant Cases

Office of the Judge Advocate General

The Air Force is committed to prevent, deter, and prosecute sexual assault in its ranks. This report contains a synopsis of significant sexual assault cases taken to trial by Court-Martial in 2008 in which the accused was convicted of a sexual assault offense. The information contained herein is a matter of public record.

List of Air Force Installations
With Significant Sexual Assault Convictions in 2008
To view cases by base, click on the name of the installation.

Fort Meade

Hill AFB

Kunsan AB

Lackland AFB

Mountain Home AFB

Ramstein AB

Robins AFB

Shaw AFB

**SIGNIFICANT AIR FORCE
SEXUAL ASSAULT CONVICTIONS
CALENDAR YEAR 2008**

Note: The appropriate disposition to sexual assault allegations and investigations may not always include referral to trial by court-martial. Rather, some less serious cases may be more appropriately handled through adverse administrative accountability actions.

United States v SrA William A. Marr

Base: Ft. Meade

Synopsis: After a night of drinking with friends at a bar, SrA Marr and his friends returned to his off-base residence to continue partying. One female airman in the group had become very intoxicated and went to sleep in SrA Marr's bed. That night she awoke to SrA Marr groping her naked body and placing his penis in her mouth.

Trial Results: On 12 Dec 08, SrA Marr was convicted by general court-martial of forcible sodomy, and abusive sexual contact.

Adjudged Sentence: SrA Marr was sentenced to confinement for 7 years, a dishonorable discharge, reduction in rank to E-1, and total forfeiture of all pay and allowances.

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United States v A1C Drew P. Sermon

Base: Hill AFB

Synopsis: A1C Sermon spent the night at the on-base residence of a male airman and his wife. After going to sleep, the male airman awoke in bed to A1C Sermon performing oral sex on him.

Trial Results: On 4 Nov 08, at Ramstein AB, Germany, A1C Sermon was convicted by general court-martial of forcible sodomy.

Adjudged Sentence: A1C Sermon was sentenced to confinement for 19 months, a bad conduct discharge, reduction in rank to E-1, and total forfeiture of all pay and allowances.

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United States v Maj Mark A. Seldes

Base: Kunsan AB

Synopsis: After an evening of dinner and drinks together, Maj Seldes accompanied a female civilian to her room. At her room, he had sexual intercourse when she was too incapacitated to consent due to taking a sleep aid.

Trial Results: On 1 Feb 08, at Kunsan AB, ROK, Maj Seldes was convicted by general court-martial of rape, adultery, and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

Adjudged Sentence: Maj Seldes was sentenced to confinement for 3 years, and a dismissal.

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United States v SrA Michael A. Cox

Base: Lackland AFB

Synopsis: While assigned as a Military Training Instructor, SrA Cox abused 4 female students by making demeaning sexual comments, requests, and contact with the students.

Trial Results: On 28 Aug 08, at Lackland AFB, TX, SrA Cox was convicted by special court-martial of wrongful sexual contact, indecent language, 3 counts of cruelty or maltreatment, and 2 counts of violating a general order.

Adjudged Sentence: SrA Cox was sentenced to confinement for 9 months, a bad conduct discharge, reduction in rank to E-1, and a reprimand.

United States v A1C Jesus Paneto, Jr.

Base: Lackland AFB

Synopsis: During a night of partying and drinking in the dorms on base, A1C Paneto and another male airman assaulted a female airman while having sex with her.

Trial Results: On 15 Aug 08, at Lackland AFB, TX, A1C Paneto was convicted by general court-martial of indecent assault, 2 counts of indecent acts with another, and willful dereliction of duty.

Adjudged Sentence: A1C Paneto was sentenced to confinement for 6 months, reduction in rank to E-1, and total forfeiture of all pay and allowances.

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United States v SSgt Alex P. Pirmann

Base: Mountain Home AFB

Synopsis: SSgt Pirmann, an AF recruiter, made inappropriate sexual comments to multiple female recruits. He also had sexual relationships with several recruits and girlfriends of recruits; often forcing the women to give him oral sex. When under investigation, he encouraged some of the women to mislead investigators about his misconduct.

Trial Results: On 1 Oct 08, at Mountain Home AFB, ID, SSgt Pirmann was convicted at a general court-martial of 6 counts of forcible sodomy, 5 counts of violating a general order, 3 counts of obstruction of justice, and adultery.

Adjudged Sentence: SSgt Pirmann was sentenced to confinement for 15 months, a bad conduct discharge, and reduction in rank to E-1.

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United States v SSgt John A. Jackson, Jr.

Base: Ramstein AB

Synopsis: SSgt Jackson sexually assaulted his ex-girlfriend, a German national, at her home.

Trial Results: On 1 Nov 08, at Ramstein AB, Germany, SSgt Jackson was convicted by general court-martial of rape and assault consummated by a battery.

Adjudged Sentence: SSgt Jackson was sentenced to confinement for 5 years and 6 months, a dishonorable discharge, and reduction in rank to E-1.

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United States v SrA Kenneth K. Crooks

Base: Robins AFB

Synopsis: After a night of drinking with friends at an off-base bar, SrA Crooks took a female airman from the group home to her dorm after she became highly intoxicated. After she passed out, SrA Crooks removed her clothing, put her in her bed, and got in bed with her. She awoke to SrA Crooks attempting to have sexual intercourse with her.

Trial Results: On 19 Jan 08, at Robins AFB, GA, SrA Crooks was convicted by general court-martial of indecent assault, and dereliction of duty.

Adjudged Sentence: SrA Crooks was sentenced to confinement for 4 months, reduction in rank to E-1, forfeiture of \$670.00 per month for 4 months, and a reprimand.

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United States v SrA Alejandro V. Arriaga

Base: Shaw AFB

Synopsis: SrA Arriaga entered the home of a civilian female without her permission and sexually assaulted her.

Trial Results: On 28 Aug 08, at Shaw AFB, SC, SrA Arriaga was convicted by general court-martial of indecent assault and housebreaking.

Adjudged Sentence: SrA Arriaga was sentenced to confinement for 4 years, a dishonorable discharge, reduction in rank to E-1, and total forfeiture of all pay and allowances.