THE ARMY EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMPLAINT PROCESS-HOW TO COMPLAIN

IF YOU ARE THE VICTIM

MAKE AN INFORMAL COMPLAINT. REPORT INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR WITHOUT INITIATING A FULL INVESTIGATION. THIS MAY BE MOST APPROPRIATE FOR MINOR INFRACTIONS, WHERE VICTIM SIMPLY WANTS BEHAVIOR STOPPED.

CALL THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY HOT LINE AT YOUR INSTALLATION TO CLARIFY WHETHER AN INCIDENT OR BEHAVIOR QUALIFIES AS SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR DISCRIMINATION

831-242-5442
831-242-4431

IF BEHAVIOR PERSISTS

FILE A FORMAL WRITTEN COMPLAINT (DA FORM 7279-R) WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE OR AGENCIES. COMPLAINTS MUST BE FILED WITHIN 60 DAYS OF INCIDENT - THOSE FILED AFTER MAY BE PURSUED AT COMMANDER'S DISCRETION

- CHAIN OF COMMAND
- EQUAL-OPPORTUNITY ADVISOR
- INSPECTOR GENERAL
- HOUSING REFERRAL OFFICE
- JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL
- MILITARY POLICE OR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR
- CHAPLAIN
- MEDICAL AGENCY

3 DAYS

COMPLAINTS, EXCEPT THOSE FILED WITH THE IG, MUST BE ACTED UPON IN THREE CALENDAR DAYS. COMPLAINTS FILED WITH AN AGENCY AGAINST A MEMBER OF THE CHAIN OF COMMAND WILL BE REFERRED TO THE NEXT HIGHER COMMANDER IN THE CHAIN.

14 DAYS

THE COMMANDER OR THE INVESTIGATING OFFICER APPOINTED BY THE COMMANDER HAS 14 CALENDAR DAYS TO INVESTIGATE THE ALLEGATIONS AND MEET WITH THE VICTIM TO DISCUSS THE OUTCOME AND RESULTS. A 30 -DAY EXTENSION MAY BE GRANTED FROM THE NEXT-HIGHER COMMANDER IF CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE IT. FURTHER EXTENSIONS CAN BE APPROVED ONLY BY THE FIRST GENERAL OFFICER IN THE CHAIN OF COMMAND.

7 DAYS

THE COMPLAINANT HAS SEVEN CALENDAR DAYS TO APPEAL TO THE NEXT HIGHER COMMANDER IF HE OR SHE IS DISSATISFIED WITH THE INVESTIGATION RESULTS OR ACTIONS TAKEN. THAT COMMANDER HAS 14 DAYS TO COMPLETE THE INVESTIGATION. FINAL DECISIONS ON COMPLAINTS RESTS WITH THE GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL CONVENING AUTHORITY.

30-45 DAYS

30 DAYS AFTER FINAL DECISION ON THE COMPLAINT AN ASSESSMENT IS CONDUCTED BY THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ADVISOR ON ALL EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMPLAINTS (SUBSTANTIATED AND UNSUBSTANTIATED) TO DETERMINE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ANY CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN AND TO DETECT AND DETER ANY INCIDENTS OF REPRISAL. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION ARE SUBMITTED TO COMMANDER ON DA FM 7279-1-R NLT 45 DAYS FOLLOWING FINAL DECISION MADE ON COMPLAINT.