

1 July 10



From the Flags

The Judge Advocate General and Deputy Judge Advocate General of the Navy



CREATION OF DEFENSE COUNSEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Today, we are standing up a new Defense Counsel Assistance Program (DCAP). DCAP is a resource center in the Office of the Judge Advocate General entirely separate and distinct from Code 20 and Appellate Defense. DCAP will be able to provide a full spectrum of privileged and confidential trial advice, resourcing and expert witness assistance, training, and other defense bar services for counsel in the field. The DCAP will be a resource for defense counsel through every phase of court-martial litigation.

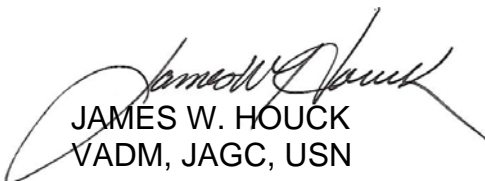
CAPT Chuck Purnell has been selected to establish and lead this office for the defense bar. He is a Military Justice Litigation Career Track Expert and has served tours as a defense counsel, trial counsel, senior defense counsel, SJA to General Courts-Martial Convening Authorities and, most recently, Director of the Appellate Defense Division. He holds an LL.M. in Trial Advocacy from George Washington University and is a graduate of the Military Judges' Course. He will be assisted by LT Brian Korn, currently in his third tour as a military justice practitioner having served at NLSO MIDLANT, Appellate Defense and now at NLSO North Central. He has represented over 160 Navy and Marine Corps clients at courts-martial or appellate proceedings and reviewed over 50,000 pages of court-martial transcript -- all through the lens of a defense advocate. The defense bar now has a dedicated resource and great depth of practical experience to draw upon. You may contact DCAP by emailing charles.purnell@navy.mil or brian.korn@navy.mil.

In the near future, we will also establish a separate and distinct Trial Counsel Assistance Program. The TCAP will be staffed with a comparable level of expertise to the DCAP, and it will provide similar services for trial counsel. Until TCAP stands up as a separate office, the trial counsel assistance program will continue to be staffed out of Code 20.

TCAP and DCAP are two important steps we are taking to enhance the quality of litigation services. These offices will augment the growth and expertise of the Military Justice Litigation Career Track by improving the quality of practice, by providing an experienced reach-back of technical expertise, and by providing additional career choices for litigation career track officers. These offices are intended to be indispensable resources for defense and government counsel. View them as part of your litigation team, and seek their advice, counsel and assistance as a matter of course.

As we go forward, our focus will continue to be on ways to achieve an even more effective and efficient litigation practice. It is our responsibility to provide the best possible legal counsel to our clients. The DCAP represents an additional resource to ensure we succeed.


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