

INFORMATION PAPER

DAJA-PT

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Subject: Active Duty Judge Advocates Accessing into the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR)

1. Authority. AR 135-100¹ governs appointments into the USAR and is supplemented by information in JA PUB 1-1.²

2. General. Officers desiring a USAR commission after leaving active duty should contact RC PPTO. Officers must meet the requirements of AR 135-100, Chapter 1 including good moral character and possession of at least a secret level security clearance.

3. Procedure. Officers who are released from active duty (REFRAD) and who desire a USAR commission or have a military service obligation must sign an USAR oath (DA 71) and submit it through RC PPTO. RC PPTO will submit the oath along with a copy of the Soldier's DD 214 to HRC for processing. In order to be commissioned into the USAR without a break in service, a Soldier must submit his/her oath dated the day after they leave active duty.

4. Slots. Officers enter the USAR in the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR). It is the officer's responsibility to locate an assignment. Assignment options include:

a. Legal Operational Detachments (LOD). As of 1 October 2011, LODs will take the place of Legal Support Organizations. There are 28 LODs located throughout the country whose primary mission is to meet the operational legal requirements as requested by Army Reserve units and managed by Legal Command (LC), G-3. LODs are assigned missions in accordance with their availability and location. Each LOD contains approximately 60 individuals who are broken down into four member teams. Teams are both general, in that they perform traditional JAGC core competencies (e.g. SRP missions, legal assistance missions, and training) and specialty teams, whose members are experts in one designated area of practice (e.g. Rule of Law and Contract and Fiscal Law). Some of the LODs will have a special purpose. There are three LODs performing trial defense services, one LOD that will consist of military judges and court reporters, and one LOD that will contain all DIMAs assigned to OTJAG, USALSA, and TJAGLCS. Each LOD will be assigned a year group in the ARFORGEN cycle. The attached map lists the current LSO/LOD locations and points of contact.

b. Drilling Individual Mobilized Augmentee (DIMA). DIMAs occupy critical positions in active duty offices and are fully prepared to assist the active duty office by mobilizing, if necessary. All vacant DIMA positions are advertised on JAGCNET under RC Vacancies. An interested

¹ AR 135-100, Army National Guard and Army Reserve Appointment of Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the Army, 1 September 1994.

² Publication 1-1, Judge Advocate General's Corp Personnel Policies, 1 November 2010.

individual should apply directly to the office responsible for the vacancy. All DIMA positions are three year assignments and require TJAG approval prior to assignment.

c. Embedded positions. USAR JAs perform an important function as brigade judge advocates (BJA), command judge advocates (CJA), or staff judge advocates (SJA) co-located with a command. BJAs/CJAs/SJAs advise commanders, his/her staff, and Soldiers in the areas of military justice, legal assistance, administrative law, personnel law, and operational law. An embedded JA deploys with his/her unit, as needed. All SJA, CJA, and BJA positions are advertised on JAGCNET under RC Vacancies. Individuals interested must apply to the General Officer Roundtable (application materials can be found on JAGCNET/RC Vacancies) and be approved by TJAG. These are tenured positions and are three year assignments. Embedded units may also contain non-tenured JA positions that do not require TJAG approval; please contact RC PPTO for information on these non-tenured positions.

d. Inactive Ready Reserve (IRR). Soldiers who do not have a specific unit assignment (LOD, DIMA, or embedded) prior to their separation will enter the USAR with an assignment to the IRR. An individual in the IRR is subject to periodic musters. Soldiers in the IRR may perform, if desired, a yearly two-week annual training.

5. Military Education. In accordance with AR 135-155,³ paragraph 2-1, active duty officers accessing into the USAR may be considered educationally qualified for promotion boards meeting within 36 months of their release from active duty even if they have not completed the necessary military education for promotion. However, the Soldier still must complete the necessary education requirements. For promotion to major, an officer must complete the Judge Advocate Officer Advanced Course (both the correspondence and residence phases). This requirement is only waived by successfully completing the JA Officer Graduate Course. For promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, a Soldier must complete all three phases of Intermediate Level Education - Common Core.

6. In accordance with Publication 1-1, paragraph 10-12, JAs leaving active duty will receive a reserve component briefing. Any questions that are not answered by this briefing should be referred to RC PPTO. Active duty JAs interested in accessing into the USAR should contact MAJ Rodney Stewart RC PPTO at rodney.d.stewart14.mil@mail.mil or 703-545-2881.

³ AR 135-155, *Promotion of Commissioned Officers and Warrant Officers*.