



## DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE

JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS - ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
PO BOX 5800  
JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, AK 99505

NGAK-TAG

26 October 2018

Message to the Force #31

SUBJECT: Service Member Interaction with Provost Marshal Office

1. Recent events involving law enforcement matters affecting Alaska National Guard (AKNG) service members have highlighted the need to refresh our knowledge of the Provost Marshal's Office (PMO).
2. The AKNG PMO is appointed to investigate criminal conduct, liaise with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, and advise leadership on law enforcement matters. The PMO is bound by professional standards set within the law enforcement community. Members of the PMO derive their authority to investigate crime and enforce laws from their respective civilian law enforcement agencies accredited by the Alaska Police Standards Council, myself as the Adjutant General, and a special police commission from the Alaska Department of Public Safety to serve as law enforcement officers within the AKNG. In the course of their duties, the Provost Marshal and deputies may require official information from various levels within the AKNG. The need for this information may often be time-sensitive, involve serious matters criminal in nature, and/or relate to the safety and preservation of human life.
3. You, as an AKNG service member, will cooperate with and support members of the PMO even as you honor your respective chains of command and regulatory guidance. When approached by a member of the PMO, you will provide support and official information to the best of your abilities. Failure to cooperate could result in adverse administrative action, charges under Alaska Statutes 26.05.755 and 26.05.765 of the Alaska Code of Military Justice, or other civilian criminal laws relating to the hindrance of prosecution. At this time, 2LT Michael Alexander is the full-time PMO while MAJ Brian Fuchs remains the M-Day/DSG PMO. In your interactions with these individuals, I remind you to render them the respect and courtesy owed, regardless of rank. This directive is not intended to supersede your legal rights against self-incrimination, legal representation, or utilization of the chain of command.
4. The PMO is an essential resource in caring for our service members. It ensures any law-enforcement issue is treated in line with statutory requirements in a timely fashion. Its establishment followed a critical recommendation of the 2014 National Guard Bureau Office of Complex Investigations inquiry into the AKNG. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with PMO roles and responsibilities by reaching out directly to the PMO office at 428-6160 or to my Executive Officer, Lt Col Matthew Komatsu, at 907-428-6012 or by email at [matthew.komatsu@alaska.gov](mailto:matthew.komatsu@alaska.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Laurel J. Hummel".

LAUREL J. HUMMEL  
Major General, AKNG  
The Adjutant General