



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 99505-0800

NGAK-TAG

03 August 2017

Message to the Force #10

SUBJECT: Culture

1. Our force may have concerns and questions following our President's tweet discussing the impact transgender personnel have on the readiness of our force. I want to reach out to each of you to reinforce that in accordance with our service and DMVA core values that members of the Alaska National Guard will treat every service member with dignity and respect. As of right now, there are no modifications to the current policy. If there is a formal shift in policy from the President and the Secretary of Defense issues implementation guidance, then we will work to implement it while treating every service member of our all-volunteer force with respect.
2. I want us to remain focused on accomplishing our assigned missions. Remember that every member volunteered to serve their state and country, making an equal commitment. The Uniform Code of Military Justice, the Alaska Code of Military Justice, and Departments of Defense, Army, and Air Force regulations regarding conduct in person and through social media specifically address actions that are cruel, humiliating, oppressive, demeaning, harassing, harmful, or unprofessional that result in the diminishment of another service member's dignity, position, or status. Such inappropriate behavior is punishable under the appropriate code of military justice or through administrative means. Conduct of this nature negatively impacts good order and discipline, is intolerable, and is prohibited.
3. As this issue continues to evolve, some of you may be contacted by various media outlets. If the media contacts you, you are reminded to exercise good judgement, professionalism, and treat others with dignity and respect. If you are contacted in your official capacity, or by virtue of your status as a member of the Alaska National Guard or United States military, please refer the member of the media to the Alaska National Guard Public Affairs Officer, Lt Col Candis Olmstead at (907) 428-6030 or mvapublicaffairs@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,

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

LAUREL J. HUMMEL
Major General, AKNG
The Adjutant General