



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 #32

SUBJECT: TAG Comments on the Brown Report

1. The Alaska National Guard has appeared in several media reports over the past week in connection with a civil lawsuit. You deserve my perspective on what has occurred since 2014, and how I view the matter.

2. First, I support any avenue for helping our organization be worthy of its members. I welcome inquiries conducted independently of the Alaska National Guard, like the Brown inquiry, if those actions ultimately help hold former members of our organization accountable for breaking the law, and if it helps bring justice and solace to victims of sexual assault or retaliation.

3. At the same time, it saddens me that more than four years later, we are still in the headlines for past failures we all have worked tirelessly to successfully overcome. Your consistent efforts to maintain a safe, professional, and ethically fit workplace and training environment may now unfortunately be overshadowed by old news that is well in the rearview mirror.

4. However, the release of this report is also an opportunity. Let it stoke the fire in our bellies to continue to improve our strong culture of accountability, professionalism, and ethical actions. We will make the best of any challenge that comes our way. Overcoming adversity makes us stronger, provides professional and personal growth opportunities, and we persevere. That is what brought us to where we are today as a premier force, driven by core values, empowered by trust, and committed to dignity and respect. We are equally ready for the war fight and to assist our fellow Alaskans in their time of greatest need. We will continue to grow and improve. I am proud of how far we've come in the past four years, and I'm honored to serve alongside all four thousand of you.

Sincerely,

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

LAUREL J. HUMMEL
Major General, AKNG
The Adjutant General