

JUSTICE REPORT - October 2021

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST LEGAL TEAM

ADVERSE ACTIONS REPORT

- A SrA wrongfully used marijuana, a Schedule I controlled substance—received NJP with reduction in grade to E-3 and a reprimand.
- A SrA, having been placed in medical quarantine, broke said quarantine by attending a party—received NJP with reduction in grade to E-3 and a reprimand.
- A SSgt wrongfully used marijuana—received NJP with reduction in grade to E-4 and a reprimand.
- An Amn wrongfully used Amphetamines—received NJP with reduction in grade to E-1 and a reprimand.

DISCHARGES

- Over a 18 month period, a SrA received nine administrative actions consisting of LOCs and LORs for being late to work, sleeping on duty, failing to report, and other minor disciplinary infractions. He was discharged with a General service characterization.
- A SSgt used marijuana on multiple occasions, resulting in a reduction in rank to SrA. She was discharged with a General service characterization.
- An Amn was detained by security forces for possession and use of marijuana in his dorm room. He was reduced in rank and discharged with a General service characterization.
- An A1C assaulted his spouse on two separate occasions. He was discharged with a General service characterization.

COURTS MARTIAL

- An A1C wrongfully used cocaine and methamphetamine, both Schedule II controlled substances—received a sentence of 30 days confinement and forfeitures of \$750 pay for one month.

“Justice is the sum of all moral duty.” – William Godwin

A NOTE FROM JBMDL LEGAL OFFICE: DRUG ABUSE AND PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS

Increasingly, more airmen are unlawfully using drugs for various reasons. Remember that drug abuse is incompatible with military service and will likely lead to a premature end to your Air Force career. This includes wrongfully using prescription drugs outside of the prescribed window, without a prescription, or use of drugs prescribed to another person. For example, members may not consume Adderall without a prescription. Recently, there have been multiple airmen who knowingly used prescription drugs without a valid prescription. If you are struggling with physical, mental, or other medical health issues, please do not attempt to self-medicate. Rather, use the resources available on base such as the mental health clinic, family advocacy, and the chaplain.

87 ABW/JA'S THREE RULES OF PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE

The purpose of progressive discipline is to address issues at the lowest appropriate level. Our Airmen deserve swift and timely feedback for incidents as they occur, and our leaders must address these issues before they escalate.

1) If it's not in writing, it didn't happen.

Fear of “hurting someone's career” by repeatedly failing to correct disciplinary incidents as they arise can result in the opposite effect: by not teaching the importance of meeting standards early on, the individual may develop bad habits or continue the unsatisfactory behavior. This can lead to more severe discipline later, which is harder to overcome at higher ranks. Recording the misconduct and feedback in the form of an LOC/LOR ensures the member learns from the mistake without it ruining their career.

2) It's about all the Airmen, not just the one standing in front of the CC.

When we discuss discipline, the focus is usually on the handful of individuals who have committed misconduct. The rest of the unit has discipline, and should be rewarded accordingly. Quality Airmen should not have to compete for promotion against the select few who are routinely derelict in their duties or commit misconduct. Accountability benefits both the troubled Airman and the other Airmen who are exceeding standards each and every day.

3) Remember your profession.

We are not just mechanics, pilots, medics, and financial analysts... ours is the profession of arms. We must have honest and, therefore, difficult conversations to provide feedback and correct behavior. It is our obligation to hold ourselves to this high standard to ensure our entire team is prepared to defend our Constitution against all enemies.