



UNITED STATES
AIR FORCE ACADEMY

**MILITARY JUSTICE
TRANSPARENCY BULLETIN**

February 2026 — March 2026

Approved by the Staff Judge Advocate

The information in this bulletin is intended to provide USAFA personnel a concise summary of discipline across USAFA and should not be interpreted as directing commanders or supervisors to take any particular action in future cases, as all cases are unique. This edition covers cases completed in February and March 2026. The bulletin will be published bi-monthly and specifically include all disciplinary actions involving allegations of sexual misconduct in accordance with DAF guidance. This information will also be accessible at: <https://www.usafa.edu/transparency-bulletin/>

Due to Privacy Act protections, names are only included for courts-martial resulting in a guilty verdict since courts are public hearings.

If you have questions or suggestions for improvement, please direct them to your chain of command.

Sincerely,

Colonel Theodore Richard
USAF Academy Staff Judge Advocate

TRAINING / TRENDS

The possession, creation, or use of a false (fake, fraudulent or altered) ID is a serious offense for all service members, with significant legal consequences. It is critical for our members, both enlisted and cadet, to understand that this conduct violates the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). For cadets specifically, it is also a direct violation of the Cadet Honor Code.

UCMJ Violations: Making, possessing, or using a false or altered identification card is a criminal offense. Depending on the member's status and the specific circumstances, this misconduct can be charged under several articles, including:

- Article 105a: (False or unauthorized pass): For making changes to an official military identification card or possessing such.
- Article 107 (False Official Statement): For presenting a false ID to authorities.
- Article 123 (Forgery): For creating or altering an official document.
- Article 133 (Conduct Unbecoming an Officer): For officers and cadets, the act of using a fake ID can be charged as conduct unbecoming an officer, as it represents deceit and a failure of integrity.

These offenses are not minor infractions. Conviction can lead to severe penalties, including confinement, forfeiture of pay, and a punitive discharge.

Honor Code Violation (Cadets): Beyond the legal ramifications, a cadet's use of a false ID is a clear violation of the Cadet Honor Code (“We will not lie, steal, or cheat, nor tolerate among us anyone who does”). The act of creating or presenting a false identification is an intentional act of deceit. Furthermore, being aware that another cadet possesses or uses a fake ID and failing to take appropriate action constitutes a toleration violation. Such failures of integrity, both direct and through tolerance, are fundamentally incompatible with the character required of a future officer in the United States Air Force and Space Force.

Consequences: The decision to use a false ID can permanently alter a military career. For any member, conviction can create a federal criminal record, and for cadets, the consequences range from administrative action up to UCMJ punishment and can include disenrollment from the Academy. Two cadets this academic year alone have been disenrolled due to such offenses. The risk is not worth any perceived reward, and cadets must remember that upholding the law and the Honor Code is an expectation for the future leaders of our military.

UPCOMING COURTS-MARTIAL

As a reminder, an accused is innocent of all charges unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. All courts-martial are held in the USAFA Courtroom (2nd Floor, Harmon Hall, within the Legal Office) and are open to the public. If the courtroom is full, individuals may view the proceeding from an overflow room.

CASE NAME	CHARGES	DATE
<i>US v. Rodriguez</i>	<i>Art. 81 – Conspiracy x 2 Art. 122a – Receiving Stolen Property</i>	<i>4-8 May 2026</i>

For more information about upcoming cases across the Air Force, visit the AF JAG Corps Public Docket: <https://legalassistance.law.af.mil/AMJAMS/PublicDocket/docket.html>

COURTS-MARTIAL RESULTS

No courts martial completed during this reporting period.

DISCHARGE BOARD RESULTS

Although many discharges/disenrollments may occur via written notification and response, in some cases a discharge board is warranted. The additional due process measures of a board is required in cases involving non-probationary officers, NCOs, Airmen with > 6 years of service, or when seeking a service characterization of Under Other Than Honorable (UOTHC). An UOTHC characterization is reserved for serious misconduct and typically results in a loss of most military/VA benefits. A Board of Inquiry/Discharge Board provides additional procedural standards, to include an impartial panel (similar to a jury), a neutral legal advisor, and the presence of counsel for the government, victim, and respondent.

No discharge boards completed during this reporting period.

NONJUDICIAL PUNISHMENT

Nonjudicial punishment (NJP) is a tool through which a commander offers an accused the opportunity to have their case decided by the commander or to demand a trial by court-martial. If the individual chooses to accept the NJP, it is not an admission of guilt, but rather a decision to have the commander decide guilt and, if appropriate, punishment. The punishment options in NJP are more limited than at a court-martial and depend on the rank of the commander and the accused. For cadets and officers, punishment is limited to forfeiture of pay, reprimand, and restriction. For enlisted, punishment may also include reduction in rank and/or extra duty. Punishments may also be suspended, which essentially acts as a probationary period in which the punishment will be removed after a period of time if the individual complies with the terms of the suspension.

Dereliction of Duty: A Staff Sergeant received nonjudicial punishment for being derelict in their duties by wrongfully attempting to submit false orders as a means to get out of a lease. The punishment included a reduction in rank to Senior Airman (suspended), forfeiture of \$1,907.00 pay per month for two months (suspended), and a reprimand.

Dereliction of Duty, Drunk on Duty and Drunken Operation of a Vehicle: A Senior Airman received nonjudicial punishment for being derelict in their duties, being intoxicated at work and being intoxicated while operating a motor vehicle. The punishment included a reduction in rank to Airman First Class, forfeiture of \$1,599.00 pay per month for two months (suspended), and a reprimand.

* Disenrollment/discharge action may be initiated following completion of NJP process. Those actions will be reflected in the next section (Discharges/Disenrollments), but may not appear until the next report due to the time of completion of those actions.

DISCHARGE / DISENROLLMENTS

Airmen and cadets are subject to disenrollment/discharge if they engage in conduct inconsistent with military service. As an analogy to the civilian sector, these decisions are the equivalent of an employer terminating an employee or in the case of cadets, a university removing a student. For non-committed and non-prior enlisted cadets, a disenrollment decision automatically results in discharge from the military. For committed cadets, after disenrollment the SECAF determines whether the cadet will serve their commitment via enlisted service (ADSC), monetary recoupment, ROTC, or whether the service commitment is waived. All individuals discharged from the military will receive a service characterization of either Entry Level (< 180 days), Honorable, Under Honorable Conditions (General) or Under Other than Honorable Conditions (UOTHC). Cadets also receive a rating between 1 and 5, which is used to determine whether they should be considered for other commissioning programs.

The rating system is as follows:

- 1 – Highly recommend;*
- 2 – Recommend as average;*
- 3 – Should not be considered w/o weighing needs of the service against reasons for disenrollment;*
- 4 – Physical/medical;*
- 5 – Definitely not recommend;*
- 6 – Entry Level/Cadet not at Academy long enough for another rating.*

As of the date of this bulletin, the approximate rate for monetary recoupment is \$70,000 per year of attendance at USAFA.

Misconduct:

One cadet was involuntarily disenrolled for wrongfully using delta 9 THC. Disenrolled with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) discharge and rating of 5 on the DD Form 785. Has ADSC. The Secretary of the Air Force will determine whether the cadet is to monetarily reimburse the government for the cost of their Academy education or be ordered to enlisted active-duty service.

One cadet was involuntarily disenrolled for providing alcohol to a minor, making a false entry in the FalconNet accountability system, interfering with an investigation and departing USAFA without being in service dress as a fourth-class cadet. Disenrolled with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) discharge and rating of 5 on the DD Form 785. No ADSC.

One enlisted member was separated with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) discharge for minor disciplinary infractions. The member's misconduct included failed dormitory inspections which resulted in a Letter of Counseling and numerous Letters of Reprimand. The member was separated but that separation was suspended based on an offer of Probation and Rehabilitation. The member subsequently failed a physical fitness test, and the command vacated the suspension.

One cadet candidate enlisted member was separated with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) discharge for a pattern of misconduct demonstrating conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline. The member's misconduct included communicating threats, posting unfavorable material about another person on social media and disobeying a direct order to cease communications with cadets.

Honor/Probationary Failure

One cadet was involuntarily disenrolled for an honor code violation for cheating. Disenrolled with an Honorable and rating of 2 on the DD Form 785. Has ADSC. The Secretary of the Air Force will determine whether the cadet is to monetarily reimburse the government for the cost of their Academy education or be ordered to enlisted active-duty service. If ordered to enlisted service, the Secretary will also determine if the cadet is permitted to enter the Mentorship, Reevaluation, and Reappointment (MRR) program.

Academic Deficiency

Two cadets were involuntarily disenrolled for academic deficiencies. Disenrolled with an Honorable and a rating of 3 on the DD Form 785. No ADSC.

One cadet was involuntarily disenrolled for academic deficiencies. Disenrolled with an Honorable and a rating of 5 on the DD Form 785. No ADSC.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT RESULTS

In accordance with DAFI 51-201, Administration of Military Justice, all legal offices are required to publish the results of disciplinary actions taken in response to allegations of sexual misconduct, to include sexual assault and sexual harassment. The following summary includes only UCMJ or Adverse Administrative Actions taken for allegations of sexual misconduct during this period.

The results are also accessible at: <https://www.usafa.edu/transparency-bulletin/>

DISCLAIMER: The information provided is to foster transparency and promote deterrence amongst Airmen and Guardians. It should not be misconstrued as a mechanism to count cases of sexual misconduct, because it could result in double counting data.

Results of Courts-Martial: N/A

Nonjudicial Punishment: N/A

Administrative Actions: N/A