



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
UNITED STATES ARMY FIRES CENTER OF EXCELLENCE AND FORT SILL  
FORT SILL, OKLAHOMA 73503

ATZR-J

4 May 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Personality Disorder Discharge Policy, CG Policy Memo 12-18

1. References.

- a. DoDI 1332.14, Enlisted Administrative Separations, 28 August 2008 incorporating Change 3 from 30 September 2011.
- b. DoDI 1332.38, Physical Disability Evaluation, 14 November 1996, incorporating Change 1 from 10 July 2006.
- c. Army Regulation 635-200, Active Duty Enlisted Administrative Separations, 6 September 2011.

2. Policy. I am committed to the Department of Defense policy to promote the readiness of the Military Services by maintaining high standards of performance, conduct, and discipline. Recognizing that Military Service is a unique calling, different from that of a civilian occupation, this policy promotes the readiness of the Army by providing an orderly means to evaluate the suitability of persons to serve in the Army. The acquisition of military status, whether through enlistment or induction, involves a commitment to the United States, the Service, one's fellow citizens, and one's fellow Service members.

- a. Organizing, training, and equipping newly accessed personnel represents a substantial investment. Separation of Service members prior to completion of their respective obligated service periods results in a significant loss of investment and generates a requirement for increased accessions.
- b. It is the role of the command teams to provide enlisted Service members with the training, motivation, and professional leadership to enable them to meet required standards of performance, conduct, and discipline. Additionally, reasonable efforts should be made to identify enlisted Service members who exhibit the likelihood for early separation, and to improve their chances for retention through counseling, retraining, and rehabilitation.
- c. Enlisted Service members who do not demonstrate the commitment or potential for further service should be separated. Separation will help counter high personnel costs in terms of pay and administration, as well as the potential for degradation of command morale, or substandard mission performance associated with retention of those who fail to meet required standards.

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3. Therefore, I hereby withhold to General Court-Martial Convening Authority level separation on the basis of personality disorder and other designated physical or mental conditions under the provisions of AR 635-200, paragraphs 5-13 and 5-17. This withholding excludes such actions taken on Initial Entry Training Soldiers.

4. According to AR 635-200, paragraph 5-17a(9), Soldiers who have been deployed to an area designated as an imminent danger pay area, a diagnosis of personality disorder must be corroborated by the MTF Chief of Behavioral Health. The corroborated diagnosis will be forwarded for final review and confirmation of the diagnosis by the Director, Proponency of Behavioral Health, Office of the Surgeon General (DASG-HSZ). Medical review of the personality disorder diagnosis will consider whether PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and/or other comorbid mental illness may be significant contributing factors to the diagnosis.

a. If PTSD, TBI, and/or other comorbid mental illness are significant contributing factors to a mental health diagnosis, the Soldier will not be processed for separation under AR 635-200, but will be evaluated under the physical disability system in accordance with AR 635-40.

b. If PTDS, TBI, and/or other comorbid mental illness are NOT significant contributing factors to a mental health diagnosis, the Soldier's separation packet will be returned to the unit for separation processing.

5. This policy memorandum supersedes CG Policy Memorandum, ATZR-J, 13 May 2010, subject: Personality Disorder Discharge Policy, CG Policy Memo 10-04.

6. The POC for this memorandum is the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Chief of Military Justice, at 442-3900.

  
JAMES M. MCDONALD  
Major General, USA  
Commanding

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