

Confidentiality

Whether a service member meets or speaks with a detailed military defense counsel, a detailed appellate defense counsel, or a military defense attorney on a walk-in basis, all these conversations are covered by the lawyer-client privilege, and as such are treated as confidential and cannot be disclosed by the defense attorney. Not only are those conversations protected by lawyer-client privilege, the defense attorney is required to provide guidance and advocacy to the member that is in the member's best interest.

Appellate Defense

A member convicted at court-martial will have their case reviewed by either a judge advocate or an appellate court. The type of initial review depends on the sentence. The CG has attorneys in CG Defense Services that can assist with appellate matters including parole and clemency petitions with the CG Residual Clemency Board.

Q. I was found guilty at a court-martial. Currently, I am still on active duty, can I receive assistance from an appellate counsel?

A. CG Defense Services is always available to discuss specific cases and what services are available. If you have questions regarding appellate assistance contact us at [HQS-DG-LST-CG-LMA-Appellate @uscg.mil](mailto:HQS-DG-LST-CG-LMA-Appellate@uscg.mil).

Q. Can I call CG Defense Services if I was discharged after a court-martial but haven't received my DD-214 form?

A. Yes. Please contact CG Defense Services to further discuss your specific case.

Navy Defense Service Offices (DSO)

Navy DSOs offer a comprehensive assortment of services for military members, and provide the added benefit of proximity and face-to-face interaction with the client. Coast Guard members can visit the closest Navy DSO for defense services. CG members may also contact CG Defense Services directly. For a complete list of available locations, see the website:

<http://www.jag.navy.mil/>

DSO Quick Reference List:

DSO NORTH:

DSNorthDefense@navy.mil

Washington, DC	Groton, CT
202-685-5595	860-694-3211

DSO WEST:

DSOWestAdvice@navy.mil

San Diego, CA	Bremerton, WA
619-556-7539	360-476-5345

DSO PACIFIC:

Guam	Pearl Harbor, HI
671-339-6067	808-473-1400

DSO SOUTH EAST:

DefenseServiceOfficeSE@navy.mil

Norfolk, VA	Jacksonville, FL
757-341-4469	904-542-1581

Pensacola, FL	Mayport, FL
850-452-3730	904-804-1561

Alternatively, CG-LMA-D may be contacted at HQS-DG-LST-CG-LMA-D@uscg.mil.

Provide any feedback to Ms. Danielle Davis at HQS-DG-LST-CG-LMA-D@uscg.mil

United States Coast Guard

DEFENSE SERVICES CG-LMA-D

2703 Martin Luther King Jr., Ave.
Mail Stop 7213
Washington, DC 20598-7213
Office: 202-372-3830
Fax: 202-372-3969

Group email - HQS-DG-LST-CG-LMA-D@uscg.mil
Website: <https://www.uscg.mil/Resources/Legal/LMA/>



The Defense Services Division (CG-LMA-D) provides qualified military defense counsel to Coast Guard members facing disciplinary proceedings and adverse personnel actions.

**NEED LEGAL ADVICE?
WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!**

Defense Services

Coast Guard members may be subject to disciplinary proceedings or adverse personnel actions. To help members navigate the complexities of the disciplinary and administrative systems, members are sometimes entitled to have military defense attorneys detailed to represent their interests. There are other times, typically in the early stages of investigations, when members may want to discuss matters with a military defense attorney but have not received detailed counsel. This type of advocacy is known as "Walk-in Advocacy." Discussions between the lawyer and member in both instances are confidential and treated as privileged communications.

WALK-IN ADVOCACY: Generally, a CG member is able to contact a military defense attorney during regular business hours to discuss member advocacy issues. This contact is typically accomplished by a member walking into a Navy DSO and requesting counsel or by first calling a supporting defense office and setting up an appointment. DSO locations and related information are provided elsewhere in this pamphlet. Members should contact the nearest DSO for specific information about their Walk-In Advocacy process. These defense services are available to members whether or not they are eventually detailed a defense counsel.

DETAILED COUNSEL: A CG member is entitled to a detailed military defense attorney in a number of instances. Some examples include: after court-martial charges are preferred against a member; upon command notification of the intent to convene an Administrative Separation Board against an enlisted member or a Board of Inquiry against an officer.

Services Offered

A CG member may contact a defense attorney to discuss member advocacy issues relating to the following issues:

Administrative Separations

Article 31b Rights (Rights Warning)

Article 138 Complaints of Wrongs

Non-Judicial Punishment

Summary Court-Martial

Special Court-Martial

General Court-Martial

Post-Trial Matters and Appeals

Parole and Clemency Matters

Restriction/Condition on Liberty

Article 32 Investigations

Relief for Cause

Line of Duty Determination

Security Revocation

Chief Petty Officer Incompetency Board

Ineligibility for Reenlistment

If you think you may need to speak with an attorney it is best to make an appointment as soon as possible.

For a list and explanation of services provided see our website: <https://www.uscg.mil/Resources/Legal/LMA>

If you need assistance with any of these issues or any other military disciplinary matter, please contact us.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Why must I go to the Navy for Defense Services?

A. The CG partners with the Navy to ensure our members receive the best possible advice and counsel. The Navy is fully qualified to provide answers to any military justice question you may have. There are also CG attorneys assigned to each Navy DSO region.

Q. Do I need to be formally charged with a crime before contacting a military defense attorney?

A. NO. If you are concerned that you may need to talk to a lawyer, then you probably do. Contact the Navy Defense Service Office to schedule an appointment.

Q. Are my communications with a military defense attorney confidential?

A. YES. If you are speaking with a defense attorney your communications cannot be disclosed without your consent.

Q. What rights do I have regarding making statements?

A. If you are suspected of committing misconduct, then any attempt to interview you should begin with the investigator informing you that you are suspected of a specific violation. They will also inform you of your right to remain silent and the right to speak with an attorney prior to making a statement. CG Defense Services strongly encourages service members to seek legal advice with the nearest Defense Service Office.