

“(c) USE OF CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES TO ADVISE LESS EXPERIENCED JUDGE ADVOCATES IN PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE.—The Secretary concerned may use highly qualified experts and other civilian employees who are under the jurisdiction of the Secretary concerned, are available, and are experienced in the prosecution or defense of complex criminal cases to provide assistance to, and consult with, less experienced judge advocates throughout the court-martial process.

“(d) PILOT PROGRAMS ON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL PROCESS FOR JUDGE ADVOCATES.—

“(1) PURPOSE.—The Secretary concerned shall carry out a pilot program to assess the feasibility and advisability of a military justice career track for judge advocates under the jurisdiction of the Secretary.

“(2) ADDITIONAL MATTERS.—A pilot program may also assess such other matters related to professional military justice development for judge advocates as the Secretary concerned considers appropriate.

“(3) DURATION.—Each pilot program shall be for a period of five years.

“(4) ELEMENTS.—Each pilot program shall include the following:

“(A) A military justice career track for judge advocates that leads to judge advocates with military justice expertise in the grade of colonel, or in the grade of captain in the case of judge advocates of the Navy.

“(B) The use of skill identifiers to identify judge advocates for participation in the pilot program from among judge advocates having appropriate skill and experience in military justice matters.

“(C) Guidance for promotion boards considering the selection for promotion of officers participating in the pilot program in order to ensure that judge advocates who are participating in the pilot program have the same opportunity for promotion as all other judge advocate officers being considered for promotion by such boards.

“(D) Such other matters as the Secretary concerned considers appropriate.

“(5) REPORT.—Not later than four years after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 23, 2016], the Secretary concerned shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the pilot programs conducted under this section. The report shall include the following:

“(A) A description and assessment of each pilot program.

“(B) Such recommendations as the Secretary considers appropriate in light of the pilot programs, including whether any pilot program should be extended or made permanent.

“(e) SECRETARY CONCERNED DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘Secretary concerned’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(9) of title 10, United States Code.”

§ 828. Art. 28. Detail or employment of reporters and interpreters

Under such regulations as the Secretary concerned may prescribe, the convening authority of a court-martial, military commission, or court of inquiry shall detail or employ qualified court reporters, who shall record the proceedings of and testimony taken before that court or commission. Under like regulations the convening authority of a court-martial, military commission, or court of inquiry may detail or employ interpreters who shall interpret for the court or commission. This section does not apply to a military commission established under chapter 47A of this title.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 47; Pub. L. 109–366, §4(a)(2), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2631.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
828	50:592.	May 5, 1950, ch. 169, §1 (Art. 28), 64 Stat. 117.

The words “Secretary concerned” are substituted for the words “Secretary of the Department”. The words, “detail or employ” are substituted for the word “appointment”, since the filling of the position involved is not appointment to an office in the constitutional sense.

AMENDMENTS

2006—Pub. L. 109–366 inserted last sentence.

§ 829. Art. 29. Absent and additional members

(a) No member of a general or special court-martial may be absent or excused after the court has been assembled for the trial of the accused unless excused as a result of a challenge, excused by the military judge for physical disability or other good cause, or excused by order of the convening authority for good cause.

(b)(1) Whenever a general court-martial, other than a general court-martial composed of a military judge only, is reduced below the applicable minimum number of members, the trial may not proceed unless the convening authority details new members sufficient in number to provide not less than the applicable minimum number of members. The trial may proceed with the new members present after the recorded evidence previously introduced before the members of the court has been read to the court in the presence of the military judge, the accused, and counsel for both sides.

(2) In this section, the term “applicable minimum number of members” means five members or, in a case in which the death penalty may be adjudged, the number of members determined under section 825a of this title (article 25a).

(c) Whenever a special court-martial, other than a special court-martial composed of a military judge only, is reduced below three members, the trial may not proceed unless the convening authority details new members sufficient in number to provide not less than three members. The trial shall proceed with the new members present as if no evidence had previously been introduced at the trial, unless a verbatim record of the evidence previously introduced before the members of the court or a stipulation thereof is read to the court in the presence of the military judge, if any, the accused and counsel for both sides.

(d) If the military judge of a court-martial composed of a military judge only is unable to proceed with the trial because of physical disability, as a result of a challenge, or for other good cause, the trial shall proceed, subject to any applicable conditions of section 816(1)(B) or (2)(C) of this title (article 16(1)(B) or (2)(C)), after the detail of a new military judge as if no evidence had previously been introduced, unless a verbatim record of the evidence previously introduced or a stipulation thereof is read in court in the presence of the new military judge, the accused, and counsel for both sides.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 47; Pub. L. 90–632, §2(11), Oct. 24, 1968, 82 Stat. 1337; Pub. L. 98–209, §3(d), Dec. 6, 1983, 97 Stat. 1394; Pub. L.

107–107, div. A, title V, § 582(c), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1124; Pub. L. 114–328, div. E, title LV, § 5187, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2902.)

AMENDMENT OF SECTION

Pub. L. 114–328, div. E, title LV, § 5187, title LXIII, § 5542, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2902, 2967, provided that, effective on the date designated by the President, not later than the first day of the first calendar month beginning two years after Dec. 23, 2016, with implementing regulations prescribed by the President not later than one year after Dec. 23, 2016, and with provisions relating to applicability to various situations, this section is amended to read as follows:

§ 829. Art 29. Assembly and impaneling of members; detail of new members and military judges

(a) ASSEMBLY.—The military judge shall announce the assembly of a general or special court-martial with members. After such a court-martial is assembled, no member may be absent, unless the member is excused—

- (1) as a result of a challenge;
- (2) under subsection (b)(1)(B); or
- (3) by order of the military judge or the convening authority for disability or other good cause.

(b) IMPANELING.—(1) Under rules prescribed by the President, the military judge of a general or special court-martial with members shall—

- (A) after determination of challenges, impanel the court-martial; and
- (B) excuse the members who, having been assembled, are not impaneled.

(2) In a general court-martial, the military judge shall impanel—

- (A) 12 members in a capital case; and
- (B) eight members in a noncapital case.

(3) In a special court-martial, the military judge shall impanel four members.

(c) ALTERNATE MEMBERS.—In addition to members under subsection (b), the military judge shall impanel alternate members, if the convening authority authorizes alternate members.

(d) DETAIL OF NEW MEMBERS.—(1) If, after members are impaneled, the membership of the court-martial is reduced to—

- (A) fewer than 12 members with respect to a general court-martial in a capital case;
- (B) fewer than six members with respect to a general court-martial in a noncapital case; or
- (C) fewer than four members with respect to a special court-martial;

the trial may not proceed unless the convening authority details new members and, from among the members so detailed, the military judge impanels new members sufficient in number to provide the membership specified in paragraph (2).

(2) The membership referred to in paragraph (1) is as follows:

- (A) 12 members with respect to a general court-martial in a capital case.
- (B) At least six but not more than eight members with respect to a general court-martial in a noncapital case.
- (C) Four members with respect to a special court-martial.

(e) DETAIL OF NEW MILITARY JUDGE.—If the military judge is unable to proceed with the trial because of disability or otherwise, a new military judge shall be detailed to the court-martial.

(f) EVIDENCE.—(1) In the case of new members under subsection (d), the trial may proceed with the new members present after the evidence previously introduced is read or, in the case of audiotape, videotape, or similar recording, is played, in the presence of the new members, the military judge, the accused, and counsel for both sides.

(2) In the case of a new military judge under subsection (e), the trial shall proceed as if no evidence had been introduced, unless the evidence previously introduced is read or, in the case of audiotape, videotape, or similar recording, is played, in the presence of the new military judge, the accused, and counsel for both sides.

See 2016 Amendment note below.

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
829(a)	50:593(a).	May 5, 1950, ch. 169, § 1 (Art. 29), 64 Stat. 117.
829(b)	50:593(b).	
829(c)	50:593(c).	

In subsections (a), (b), and (c), the word “may” is substituted for the word “shall”.

In subsections (b) and (c), the word “details” is substituted for the word “appoints”, since the filling of the position involved is not appointment to an office in the constitutional sense.

AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114–328 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section related to absent and additional members of a general or special court-martial.

2001—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 107–107 designated existing provisions as par. (1), substituted “the applicable minimum number of members” for “five members” in two places, and added par. (2).

1983—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 98–209 substituted “unless excused as a result of a challenge, excused by the military judge for physical disability or other good cause, or excused by order of the convening authority for good cause” for “except for physical disability or as a result of a challenge or by order of the convening authority for good cause”.

1968—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 90–632, § 2(11)(A), substituted “court has been assembled for the trial of the accused” for “accused has been arraigned”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 90–632, § 2(11)(B), inserted reference to court-martial composed of a military judge alone, struck out reference to oath of members, and inserted provisions requiring that only the evidence which has been introduced before members of the court be read to the court and that all evidence, not merely testimony, be included.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 90–632, § 2(11)(C), inserted reference to court-martial composed of a military judge alone, struck out reference to oath of members, and substituted evidence previously introduced for testimony of previously examined witnesses as the body of evidence which the verbatim record must cover.

Subsec. (d) Pub. L. 90–632, § 2(11)(D), added subsec. (d).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2016 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 114–328 effective on the date designated by the President, not later than the first day of the first calendar month beginning two years after Dec. 23, 2016, with implementing regulations prescribed by the President not later than one year after

Dec. 23, 2016, and with provisions relating to applicability to various situations, see section 5542 of Pub. L. 114-328, set out as a note under section 801 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2001 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-107 applicable with respect to offenses committed after Dec. 31, 2002, see section 582(d) of Pub. L. 107-107, set out as a note under section 816 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1983 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-209 effective first day of eighth calendar month beginning after Dec. 6, 1983, see section 12(a)(1) of Pub. L. 98-209, set out as a note under section 801 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1968 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 90-632 effective first day of tenth month following October 1968, see section 4 of Pub. L. 90-632, set out as a note under section 801 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER VI—PRE-TRIAL PROCEDURE

Sec.	Art.
830.	30. Charges and specifications.
830a.	30a. Certain proceedings conducted before referral.
831.	31. Compulsory self-incrimination prohibited.
832.	32. Preliminary hearing.
833.	33. Forwarding of charges.
834.	34. Advice of staff judge advocate and reference for trial.
835.	35. Service of charges.

AMENDMENT OF ANALYSIS

Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title X, § 1081(d)(19)(A), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1599, 1601, made technical amendment to Pub. L. 114-328, § 5541(3), set out in part below, effective as of Dec. 23, 2016, and as if included in Pub. L. 114-328 as enacted. See 2017 Amendment note below.

Pub. L. 114-328, div. E, title LXIII, § 5541(3)(B), 5542, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2966, 2967, as amended by Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title X, § 1081(d)(19)(A), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1601, provided that, effective on the date designated by the President, not later than the first day of the first calendar month beginning two years after Dec. 23, 2016, with implementing regulations prescribed by the President not later than one year after Dec. 23, 2016, and with provisions relating to applicability to various situations, this analysis is amended by striking items 832 to 835 and inserting the following new items:

Sec.	Art.
832.	32. Preliminary hearing required before referral to general court-martial.
833.	33. Disposition guidance.
834.	34. Advice to convening authority before referral for trial.
835.	35. Service of charges; commencement of trial.

See 2016 Amendment note below.

AMENDMENTS

2017—Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title X, § 1081(d)(19)(A), (C), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1601, amended Pub. L. 114-328, § 5541(3). See 2016 Amendment note below.

2016—Pub. L. 114-328, div. E, title LXIII, § 5541(3), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2965, as amended by Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title X, § 1081(d)(19)(A), (C), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1601, added item 830a and substituted “Preliminary hearing required before referral to general court-

martial” for “Preliminary hearing” in item 832, “Disposition guidance” for “Forwarding of charges” in item 833, “Advice to convening authority before referral for trial” for “Advice of staff judge advocate and reference for trial” in item 834, and “Service of charges; commencement of trial” for “Service of charges” in item 835.

2013—Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title XVII, § 1702(a)(2), Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 955, substituted “Preliminary hearing” for “Investigation” in item 832.

§ 830. Art. 30. Charges and specifications

(a) Charges and specifications shall be signed by a person subject to this chapter under oath before a commissioned officer of the armed forces authorized to administer oaths and shall state—

(1) that the signer has personal knowledge of or has investigated, the matters set forth therein; and

(2) that they are true in fact to the best of his knowledge and belief.

(b) Upon the preferring of charges, the proper authority shall take immediate steps to determine what disposition should be made thereof in the interest of justice and discipline, and the person accused shall be informed of the charges against him as soon as practicable.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 47; Pub. L. 114-328, div. E, title LVI, § 5201, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2904.)

AMENDMENT OF SECTION

Pub. L. 114-328, div. E, title LVI, § 5201, title LXIII, § 5542, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2904, 2967, provided that, effective on the date designated by the President, not later than the first day of the first calendar month beginning two years after Dec. 23, 2016, with implementing regulations prescribed by the President not later than one year after Dec. 23, 2016, and with provisions relating to applicability to various situations, this section is amended to read as follows:

§ 830. Art 30. Charges and specifications

(a) IN GENERAL.—Charges and specifications—
(1) may be preferred only by a person subject to this chapter; and

(2) shall be preferred by presentment in writing, signed under oath before a commissioned officer of the armed forces who is authorized to administer oaths.

(b) REQUIRED CONTENT.—The writing under subsection (a) shall state that—

(1) the signer has personal knowledge of, or has investigated, the matters set forth in the charges and specifications; and

(2) the matters set forth in the charges and specifications are true, to the best of the knowledge and belief of the signer.

(c) DUTY OF PROPER AUTHORITY.—When charges and specifications are preferred under subsection (a), the proper authority shall, as soon as practicable—

(1) inform the person accused of the charges and specifications; and

(2) determine what disposition should be made of the charges and specifications in the interest of justice and discipline.

See 2016 Amendment note below.