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14904.	Rights and procedures.
14905.	Officer considered for removal: retirement or discharge.
14906.	Officers eligible to serve on boards.
14907.	Army National Guard of the United States and Air National Guard of the United States: discharge and withdrawal of Federal recognition of officers absent without leave.

**§ 14901. Separation of chaplains for loss of professional qualifications**

(a) SEPARATION.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, an officer on the reserve active-status list who is appointed or designated as a chaplain may, if the officer fails to maintain the qualifications needed to perform the professional function of a chaplain, be discharged. The authority under the preceding sentence applies without regard to the provisions of section 12645 of this title.

(b) EFFECT OF SEPARATION.—If an officer separated under this section is eligible for retirement, the officer may be retired. If the officer has completed the years of service required for eligibility for retired pay under chapter 1223 of this title, the officer may be transferred to the Retired Reserve.

(Added Pub. L. 103-337, div. A, title XVI, § 1611, Oct. 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 2957.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1996, see section 1691(b)(1) of Pub. L. 103-337, set out as a note under section 10001 of this title.

**§ 14902. Separation for substandard performance and for certain other reasons**

(a) SUBSTANDARD PERFORMANCE OF DUTY.—The Secretary of the military department concerned shall prescribe, by regulation, procedures for the review at any time of the record of any reserve officer to determine whether that officer should be required, because that officer's performance has fallen below standards prescribed by the Secretary concerned, to show cause for retention in an active status.

(b) MISCONDUCT, ETC.—The Secretary of the military department concerned shall prescribe, by regulation, procedures for the review at any time of the record of any reserve officer to determine whether that officer should be required, because of misconduct, because of moral or professional dereliction, or because the officer's retention is not clearly consistent with the interests of national security, to show cause for retention in an active status.

(c) REGULATIONS.—The authority of the Secretary of a military department under this section shall be carried out subject to such limitations as the Secretary of Defense may prescribe by regulation.

(Added Pub. L. 103-337, div. A, title XVI, § 1611, Oct. 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 2958.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1996, see section 1691(b)(1) of Pub. L. 103-337, set out as a note under section 10001 of this title.

**§ 14903. Boards of inquiry**

(a) CONVENING OF BOARDS.—The Secretary of the military department concerned shall con-

vene a board of inquiry at such time and place as the Secretary may prescribe to receive evidence and review the case of any officer who has been required to show cause for retention in an active status under section 14902 of this title. Each board of inquiry shall be composed of not less than three officers who have the qualifications prescribed in section 14906 of this title.

(b) RIGHT TO FAIR HEARING.—A board of inquiry shall give a fair and impartial hearing to each officer required under section 14902 of this title to show cause for retention in an active status.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS TO SECRETARY.—If a board of inquiry determines that the officer has failed to establish that the officer should be retained in an active status, the board shall recommend to the Secretary concerned that the officer not be retained in an active status.

(d) ACTION BY SECRETARY.—After review of the recommendation of the board of inquiry, the Secretary may—

- (1) remove the officer from an active status;
- or
- (2) determine that the case be closed.

(e) ACTION IN CASES WHERE CAUSE FOR RETENTION IS ESTABLISHED.—(1) If a board of inquiry determines that an officer has established that the officer should be retained in an active status or if the Secretary determines that the case be closed, the officer's case is closed.

(2) An officer who is required to show cause for retention under section 14902(a) of this title and whose case is closed under paragraph (1) may not again be required to show cause for retention under such subsection during the one-year period beginning on the date of that determination.

(3)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), an officer who is required to show cause for retention under section 14902(b) of this title and whose case is closed under paragraph (1) may again be required to show cause for retention at any time.

(B) An officer who has been required to show cause for retention under section 14902(b) of this title and who is thereafter retained in an active status may not again be required to show cause for retention under such section solely because of conduct which was the subject of the previous proceeding, unless the recommendations of the board of inquiry that considered the officer's case are determined to have been obtained by fraud or collusion.

(Added Pub. L. 103-337, div. A, title XVI, § 1611, Oct. 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 2958; amended Pub. L. 104-106, div. A, title XV, § 1501(b)(32), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 498.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-106 substituted "title" for "chapter".

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-106 effective as if included in the Reserve Officer Personnel Management Act, title XVI of Pub. L. 103-337, as enacted on Oct. 5, 1994, see section 1501(f)(3) of Pub. L. 104-106, set out as a note under section 113 of this title.