

**§ 8461. Midshipmen: dismissal for best interests of the service**

(a) Whenever the Superintendent of the Naval Academy believes that the continued presence of any midshipman at the Academy is contrary to the best interest of the service, he shall report in writing to the Secretary of the Navy a full statement of the facts upon which his belief is based. If the Secretary determines from the report that the Superintendent's belief is well founded, the Secretary shall serve a copy of the report on the midshipman. Within such time as the Secretary considers reasonable, the midshipman shall show cause in writing why he should not be dismissed from the Academy. The Secretary, after consideration of any cause so shown, and with the written approval of the President, may dismiss the midshipman from the Academy and from the naval service.

(b) The truth of any issue of fact raised under subsection (a), except as to the record of demerits, shall be determined by a court of inquiry convened by the Secretary.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 432, § 6961; renumbered § 8461, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, § 807(c)(1), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1836.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
6961 .....	34 U.S.C. 1062.	Apr. 9, 1906, ch. 1370, §1, 34 Stat. 104.

The words “court of inquiry” are substituted for the words “board of inquiry” to conform to the terminology of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The words “under the rules and regulations for the government of the Navy” are omitted as unnecessary.

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 6961 of this title as this section.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

**Executive Documents**

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

For delegation to Secretary of Defense of authority vested in President by section 1062 of former Title 34, see Ex. Ord. No. 10621, July 1, 1955, 20 F.R. 4759, set out as a note under section 301 of Title 3, The President.

**§ 8462. Midshipmen: discharge for unsatisfactory conduct or inaptitude**

(a) The Superintendent of the Naval Academy shall submit to the Secretary of the Navy in writing a full report of the facts—

- (1) whenever the Superintendent determines that the conduct of a midshipman is unsatisfactory; or
- (2) whenever the Academic Board unanimitously determines that midshipman possesses

insufficient aptitude to become a commissioned officer in the naval service.

(b) A midshipman upon whom a report is made under subsection (a) shall be given an opportunity to examine the report and submit a written statement thereon. If the Secretary believes, on the basis of the report and statement, that the determination of the Superintendent or of the Academic Board is reasonable and well founded, he may discharge the midshipman from the Naval Academy and from the naval service.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 432, § 6962; renumbered § 8462, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, § 807(c)(1), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1836.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
6962 .....	34 U.S.C. 1062a.	Dec. 11, 1945, ch. 562, 59 Stat. 605.

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 6962 of this title as this section.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

**§ 8463. Midshipmen: discharge for deficiency**

Midshipmen found deficient at any examination shall, unless the Academic Board recommends otherwise, be discharged from the Naval Academy and from the naval service.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 433, § 6963; renumbered § 8463, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, § 807(c)(1), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1836.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
6963 .....	34 U.S.C. 1053.	R.S. 1519; restored Oct. 22, 1921, ch. 113, §2, 42 Stat. 207.

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 6963 of this title as this section.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

**§ 8464. Hazing: definition; prohibition**

(a) In this chapter, the term “hazing” means any unauthorized assumption of authority by a

midshipman whereby another midshipman suffers or is exposed to any cruelty, indignity, humiliation, hardship, or oppression, or the deprivation or abridgement of any right.

(b) The Superintendent of the Naval Academy shall prescribe regulations, to be approved by the Secretary of the Navy, to prevent hazing.

(c) Hazing is an offense that may be dealt with as an offense against good order and discipline or as a violation of the regulations of the Naval Academy. However, no midshipman may be dismissed for a single act of hazing except by sentence of a court-martial.

(d) The finding and sentence of a court-martial of a midshipman for hazing shall be reviewed in the manner prescribed for general court-martial cases.

(e) A midshipman who is sentenced to imprisonment for hazing may not be confined with persons who have been convicted of crimes or misdemeanors.

(f) A midshipman who is dismissed from the Academy for hazing may not be reappointed as a midshipman or be appointed as a commissioned officer in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Space Force until two years after the graduation of the class of which he was a member.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 433, §6964; Pub. L. 99-145, title XIII, §1301(c)(2), Nov. 8, 1985, 99 Stat. 736; Pub. L. 101-189, div. A, title XVI, §1622(e)(8), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1605; renumbered §8464, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §807(c)(1), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1836; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title IX, §924(d)(1), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3826.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
6964(a) .....	34 U.S.C. 1064.	Apr. 9, 1906, ch. 1370, §4, 34 Stat. 105.
6964(b) .....	34 U.S.C. 1063.	Mar. 3, 1903, ch. 1010, 32 Stat. 1198 (1st 28 words of 1st proviso).
6964(c) .....	34 U.S.C. 1065.	Apr. 9, 1906, ch. 1370, §2 (last 54 words), 34 Stat. 104.
6964(d), (e).	34 U.S.C. 1066.	June 23, 1874, ch. 453, 18 Stat. 203; Mar. 3, 1903, ch. 1010, 32 Stat. 1198 (29th to 49th word of 1st proviso); Apr. 9, 1906, ch. 1370, §3, 34 Stat. 104; May 5, 1950, ch. 169, §11, 64 Stat. 146.
6964(f) .....	34 U.S.C. 1067.	Mar. 3, 1903, ch. 1010, 32 Stat. 1198 (last 43 words of 1st proviso).

In subsection (a) the words “privilege, or advantage to which he shall legally be entitled” are omitted as surplusage, since they are covered by the word “right”. The definition in this subsection is made applicable throughout the chapter to cover §6965 of this title, since the reference in that section to hazing was also derived from the act which is the source for this subsection.

In subsection (b) the words “prescribe regulations \* \* \* to prevent hazing” are substituted for the words “make such rules \* \* \* as will effectually prevent the practice of hazing”.

In subsection (c) the words “dealt with” are substituted for the words “proceeded against, dealt with, and punished”. The word “regulations” is substituted for the word “rules” for uniformity and the words “and breaches” are omitted as surplusage. The words “except by sentence of a court-martial” are substituted for

the words “except under the provisions of section three of this Act” because §3 of the source statute provided for a Naval Academy court-martial with special provisions for handling cases involving hazing. The enactment of the Uniform Code of Military Justice made midshipmen at the Naval Academy subject to the same military law which applies generally to the naval service, thereby superseding the special type of court-martial for midshipmen. A court-martial under the Uniform Code of Military Justice has the power to sentence anyone convicted by it to dismissal if authorized by the Table of Maximum Punishments.

In subsections (d) and (e) all that part of the source text preceding the proviso is omitted as superseded by the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The words “in a military or naval prison or elsewhere” are omitted as surplusage.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 116-283 substituted “Marine Corps, or Space Force” for “or Marine Corps”.

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 6964 of this title as this section.

1989—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-189 inserted “, the term” after “In this chapter”.

1985—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 99-145 substituted “persons” for “men”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

§ 8465. Failure to report violation: dismissal

(a) Each officer stationed at the Naval Academy, each midshipman officer, each midshipman petty officer, and each civilian member of the teaching staff of the Academy shall report promptly to the Superintendent of the Naval Academy any fact that tends to show the commission of hazing or any violation of an Academy regulation by a midshipman.

(b) An officer of the naval service who fails to make a report required by subsection (a) shall be tried by court-martial and if convicted shall be dismissed from the naval service.

(c) A civilian member of the teaching staff of the Academy who fails to make a report required by subsection (a) shall, with the approval of the Secretary of the Navy, be dismissed by the Superintendent.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 433, §6965; renumbered §8465, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §807(c)(1), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1836.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
6965 .....	34 U.S.C. 1068.	Apr. 9, 1906, ch. 1370, §5, 34 Stat. 105.

In subsection (a) the words “each officer stationed at the Naval Academy, each midshipman officer, each midshipman petty officer, and each civilian member of the teaching staff of the Academy shall” are substituted for the words “it shall be the duty of every professor, assistant professor, academic officer, or any cadet officer or cadet petty officer, or instructor, as well as every other officer stationed at the United