DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL
2200 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-2200

24. Jan. 2025

DAJA-ZA

MEMORANDUM FOR President of the Fiscal Year 2025 Lateral Attorney Accession Board, Judge Advocate General's Corps

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Instruction for the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Lateral Attorney Accession Board (LAAB), Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG Corps)

1. Authority. The FY25 LAAB, JAG Corps, is appointed pursuant to Army Regulation (AR) 27-1, Judge Advocate Legal Services, paragraph 9-6. The board is convened to recommend qualified, licensed attorneys for appointment to the JAG Corps in the Regular Army (RA).

2. Membership. The board will consist of five voting members: a JAG Corps general officer as president and four JAG Corps field grade officers. At least one member must be a Judge Advocate in the United States Army Reserve (USAR). The board will also include at least one female and one minority member. My designee or I will appoint the board members and may select individuals other than those recommended to serve on the board. Board membership will be provided under separate cover. The Chief, Judge Advocate Recruiting Office (JARO), is delegated the authority to excuse members and appoint alternates if exceptional circumstances exist. Further, the Chief, JARO is granted authority to grant exceptions to policy (ETPs) concerning board membership, as required.

3. General.

a. The board will consider applicants who are licensed to practice law in any State, Territory, or Commonwealth of the United States who have received a Juris Doctorate from an American Bar Association-accredited law school, including judge advocates currently serving in the Army National Guard (ARNG), USAR, to include the Individual Ready Reserve, or in a sister service. The board will also consider applicants in their third year of law school if granted an exception by the Chief, JARO.

b. The board will use a "yes/no" voting format. Applicants recommended for appointment will be voted as a "yes," while applicants not recommended for appointment will be voted as "no." Applicants for whom a majority of board members vote "yes" will be considered recommended by the board for appointment to the JAG Corps in the RA.

c. The board will convene virtually on a monthly basis, as applicable, to review and vote on applications. The board president has no authority to constrain the board from

recommending for appointment those applicants the majority of the board determines to be qualified as defined in this Memorandum of Instruction and enclosures.

d. Enclosure 1 contains administrative instructions and procedures and specifies the oaths for the board and the recorder.

e. Enclosure 2 contains additional guidance on the factors the board is to consider in the selection process. This enclosure also contains guidance for ensuring equal opportunity for all applicants.

f. JARO will furnish applicant files and provide administrative support to the board.

g. I have selected each of you to serve on this board because I have confidence in your ability to recognize applicants who have proven performance and continued potential as Army leaders and attorneys. Bear in mind the serious nature of your duties and your obligation to ensure that these proceedings remain above reproach. The oath you will take obliges you to ensure that all applicants are considered without prejudice or partiality. You will adhere to that oath, governing laws, directives, regulations, and this memorandum of instruction when selecting applicants who meet the needs of the Army, as outlined here. Your failure to do so may constitute cause for removal as a member.

h. Any board member who believes he or she cannot, in good conscience, perform his or her duties as a member of the board without prejudice or partiality has a duty to request that I relieve them from board membership. At my discretion, such a request may be honored. Any board member who believes the integrity of the board's proceedings has been affected by improper influence or senior military or civilian authority, misconduct by the board president or a member, or any other reason, has a duty to report the basis for his or her belief to me.

4. Restrictions.

a. Recommendations of the board are "Controlled Unclassified Information" until the proper authority releases the results. You will not disclose, for any reason, specific details of the board proceedings pertaining to the selection or non-selection of individual applicants, whether recorded or unrecorded.

b. Board membership will not be revealed until the board adjourns.