



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

4/29/2017

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

SUBJECT: Policy for Military Service Academy and Reserve Officers' Training Corps
Graduates Seeking to Participate in Professional Sports/Activities

References: (a) DoDI 1215.08, "Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps Programs," DTD
January 19, 2017
(b) DoDI 1322.22, "Service Academies," DTD September 24, 2015

This memorandum revises and reinforces the Department's policy for recently commissioned officers serving on active duty who are graduates of the Military Service Academies or Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) programs and who seek to be released from active duty, or receive some other accommodation, so that they may pursue careers in professional activities such as professional sports. This memorandum cancels the May 5, 2016, memorandum entitled "Clarification Guidance for Policy on Military Service Academy and Reserve Officers' Training Corps Graduates Seeking to Participate in Professional Activities/Sports" signed by the then Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

The Military Service Academies or Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps programs exist to develop future officers who enhance the readiness and lethality of our Military Services. During their first two years following graduation, officers will serve as full-fledged military officers carrying out the normal work and career expectations of an officer who has received the extraordinary benefits of an ROTC or military academy education at taxpayer expense.

I appreciate your review and input concerning this program. Questions should be addressed to the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

Jan Matti



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