



# THE NIMJ GAZETTE

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## Symposium

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces will hold its annual CLE on 10 and 11 May at the Antonin Scalia Law School. [More details here.](#)

## Reports

[Annual Report of the Office of the Judge Advocate General \(UK\), 2021-2022.](#) HHJ Large observes “Anyone with an interest in the Service Justice System will have noted reports in the media and elsewhere about conviction rates in sexual cases in the Court Martial.” A footnote takes you to the Ministry of Defence (UK), [Murder, manslaughter, and sexual offences in the Service Justice System](#). December 2022.

In 2021, there were 239 investigations into allegations of a sexual offence.

In 2021, there were 124 referrals to the Prosecuting Authority.

In 2021, 145 cases went to trial (an increase of 37 more than in 2020).

In 2021, 37 accused’s were found guilty of one or more sex offences.

Ashley Merryman, [The Dangerous Cycle of Pentagon Sexual Assault and Harassment ‘Lowest Level’ Policy](#). LawFare, 12 April 2023. Report at [this link](#).

The [Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces](#) has released the following reports and study on March 30, 2023: Fifth Annual Report, Report on Victim Impact Statements at Courts-Martial Presentencing Proceedings, and the Appellate Review Study.

## Worth a look (new and old)

Vianna Davila, Lexi Churchill and Ren Larson, ProPublica and The Texas Tribune, and Davis Winkie, Military Times, [The Army Increasingly Allows Soldiers Charged With Violent Crimes to Leave the Military Rather Than Face Trial](#). Pro Publica, 10 April 2023. Compare with Jeff Shogol, [Pentagon reports huge drop in troops court-martialed for sexual assault over last 10 years](#). Task & Purpose, 27 April 2023.

Melissa Hendrickse, [Closing a Legal Gap on Crimes Against Humanity](#). Opinio Juris, 16 April 2023.

A bit of common law, or as GMJR describes, "[A bespoke system](#)," is discussed by HHJ Alan Large, Judge Advocate General of H.M. Forces. One item of note is that recent legislation now will require at least one male and one female on a court-martial panel.

Cheers, Phil Cave, Editor