



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
3000 MARINE CORPS PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-3000

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5800
JAR1

21 JUL 2011

Haytham Faraj, Esquire
The Law Firm of Puckett and Faraj, P.C.
1800 Diagonal, Suite 210
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Mr. Faraj,

This letter is in response to your letter of March 21, 2011, making a formal complaint of professional misconduct against Colonel Stephanie C. Smith, U.S. Marine Corps. As Rules Counsel for the U.S. Marine Corps, I am responsible for reviewing allegations of professional misconduct against Marine judge advocates and determining appropriate action.

After careful review of your complaint and Colonel Smith's response, I requested that the Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot/Western Recruiting Region, San Diego, appoint an officer to conduct a preliminary inquiry into the allegations according to the procedures in JAG Instruction 5803.1C. I have reviewed the results of the preliminary inquiry, and I have taken appropriate action.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention. The point of contact in my office for this matter is Lieutenant Colonel Porter Harlow, Research and Civil Law Branch Head, at 703-693-8164.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. A. AFY".

V. A. AFY
Major General, U.S. Marine Corps
Staff Judge Advocate to the
Commandant of the Marine Corps
Rules Counsel