

## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY 1250 10<sup>th</sup> St, SE, Ste 1300 WASHINGTON NAVY YARD, DC 20374-5140

IN REPLY REFER TO: 5500 Ser 52/118 27 Sept 21

## Subj: PROMULGATING ORDER: UNIFORM RULES OF PRACTICE BEFORE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS COURTS-MARTIAL

Encl: (1) Uniform Rules of Practice, dated 27 Sep 21

1. Purpose. To update the Uniform Rules for courts-martial practice throughout the Navy-Marine Corps Trial Judiciary (NMCTJ).

2. Applicability. The Uniform Rules of Practice set forth in enclosure (1) shall apply to all circuits within NMCTJ and to all attorneys, court personnel, lawyers, witnesses, and spectators participating in, or observing, courts-martial proceedings.

3. Cancellation. These Uniform Rules are effective as of 27 September 2021. The 5 August 2020 edition of the Uniform Rules of Practice, NMCTJ, is canceled effective this date.

4. Changes to the previous rules:

a. The Uniform Rules remain substantially similar to the 5 August 2020 version. Minor modifications have been made to Rules 2, 4.1, 5.2, 6.2, 7.4, 9.4, 10.3, 10.4, 17, 22.1, 26.5, 31.5, 34.4, 34.8, 34.10, 34.11, and 34.12.

b. Rules 15, 32, and 36.7 reflect significant changes pertaining to remote requirements associated with various proceedings.

c. New Rules 5.5, 10.5 (forcing the renumbering of the remaining provisions in Rule 10), 12.2, 15.4 - 15.6 (forcing the renumbering of the remaining provision in Rule 15), and 25.4 (corrected number) have been added.

d. Rules 29.1 (Rule 29.2 was renumbered to reflect said deletion) and 35.4 were deleted.

5. Action. The Uniform Rules of Practice Before Navy and Marine Corps Courts-Martial are a guide to circuits of the NMCTJ and participants practicing therein.

a. All rules set forth in the enclosure shall be followed by judges and other participants, whether military or civilian, practicing or otherwise participating or viewing special or general courts-martial within the Navy-Marine Corps AOR. Local circuit rules may supplement, but not contradict, the Uniform Rules.

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b. Circuit judges shall ensure that copies of this promulgating order and the enclosure are provided to the Commanding Officers of Regional Legal Services Offices and Defense Services Offices, Officers in Charge of Marine Legal Service Support Sections, Marine Regional Defense Counsel, and Victims' Legal Counsel within their circuit for further distribution to all military counsel under their command. Military defense counsel will furnish civilian defense counsel with copies of these rules. Trial counsel will furnish civilian victim's legal counsel with copies of these rules upon notice of appearance.

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J.T. STEPHENS CAPT, JAGC, USN Chief Trial Judge

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