



Jennifer M. O'Connor

General Counsel of the Department of Defense



Jennifer M. O'Connor is General Counsel of the Department of Defense. Appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate, she was sworn in on June 14, 2016.

By statute, the General Counsel is the chief legal officer of the Department. She is the principal legal advisor to the Secretary of Defense, has authority and responsibility for legal policy and determinations, and provides legal services within the Department of Defense and its components. She also serves as the Director of the Defense Legal Services Agency, which is comprised of the legal staffs assigned to the Defense Agencies and Department of Defense Field Activities. Previously, Ms. O'Connor served as Deputy General Counsel (Legal Counsel) at the Department from October 2015, until her confirmation. In that role, she had functional responsibility for legal advice and services in the broad areas of controversial legal problems, public affairs, administrative law, freedom of information, privacy, security plans and programs, investigative matters and the Department's litigation portfolio.

Ms. O'Connor earlier served in numerous positions and agencies throughout the federal government. Her past positions include service in the current administration as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy White House Counsel responsible for the litigation, oversight and investigations portfolios; Senior Counsel at the Department of Health and Human Services; and as Counselor to the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service. Ms. O'Connor also worked in the Clinton Administration as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy at the Department of Labor; Special Assistant to the President in the Office of the White House Deputy Chief of Staff; Special Assistant to the President in the Office of Cabinet Affairs; and as Deputy Director of the White House Office of Management and Administration.

Ms. O'Connor was previously a partner at the law firm of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP in Washington, DC, where she was a member of its Defense and National Security practice group, and also a member of its litigation department. She represented clients in federal and state trial and appellate cases and investigations throughout the country. She joined the firm in 2002. Prior to that, she practiced at the law firms of Baker Botts and Miller Cassidy Larroca & Lewin.

Ms. O'Connor is the recipient of the Defender of Innocence award from the Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project and the Gideon Champion of Justice award from the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers for her pro bono representations while at WilmerHale. Prior to her current term of government service, she served on the Board of the Council for Court Excellence and the Board of the Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project and was a member of the Edward Bennett Williams Inn of Court.

Ms. O'Connor began her legal practice as a law clerk for the Honorable Judith W. Rogers at the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Ms. O'Connor received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard University, a Masters in Public Administration from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, and a Juris Doctor degree from Georgetown University. She is admitted to the New York State Bar and District of Columbia Bar.

Mr. Dwight H. Sullivan, DoD, Office of the General Counsel, is the DoD's Associate Deputy General Counsel for Military Justice. He is also an adjunct faculty member at the George Washington University Law School. In 2013, he retired from the Marine Corps Reserve following 30 years of commissioned service as an active duty and reserve Marine. From 2007-2013, Mr. Sullivan was a civilian counsel at the Air Force Appellate Defense Division. From 2005-2007, he served as the chief defense counsel of the military commissions system. He was previously a managing attorney with the ACLU of Maryland for six years. He spent the first ten years of his legal career as an active duty Marine judge advocate, including service as a trial counsel, appellate defense counsel, and Naval Justice School instructor. He is the co-author of *Military Justice Cases and Materials*, a casebook published by LexisNexis in 2007 with a second edition published in 2012. Mr. Sullivan is also the co-editor of *Evolving Military Justice*, an anthology published by the Naval Institute Press in 2002. He has authored more than a dozen law review and law journal articles about military and Maryland law. He is an elected member of the American Law Institute. Mr. Sullivan is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law (J.D. 1986) and the University of Maryland (B.A. 1982; M.A. 1987). He also holds an LL.M. from The Judge Advocate General's School, U.S. Army (1994).

Captain Warren A. ("Art") Record, Jr., is currently serving as Director, Office of Judge Advocate General (OJAG) Code 20 (Criminal Law Division). In this position, he leads a team of military and civilian personnel providing advice on criminal law and policy questions to Navy leadership. He is also the Chair of the Joint Services Committee on Military Justice. His previous positions include legal assistance attorney, staff judge advocate, defense counsel, senior defense counsel, executive officer, and staff attorney and working group member of the Joint Services Committee on Military Justice. In 2012, Captain Record assumed command of U.S. Naval Legal Service Office, Europe, Africa and Southwest Asia where he led a team of defense and legal assistance attorneys representing eligible clients on three continents and in two numbered fleet areas of responsibility. While in this position, he also oversaw realignment of the legal assistance mission and disestablishment of the command. Captain Record earned his juris doctor degree, with highest distinction, from Mississippi College School of Law. He holds a master's degree in national security and strategic studies from the Naval War College and he is admitted to the Mississippi bar.

Maria Avignone Fried is an Associate Deputy General Counsel, in the Office of General Counsel, for Personnel and Health Policy. In that capacity, she renders legal advice on a variety of issues, to include wounded warrior matters, sexual assault, labor law, health law, women in combat, and other military personnel matters. Prior to joining the Office of General Counsel, Ms. Fried was the General Counsel for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. As the Chief Legal Advisor, Ms. Fried provided managers with legal advice pertaining to all aspects of employment law, fiscal law, and administrative law. After graduating from Georgetown University Law Center in June 1991, Ms. Fried received a direct commission, as a first lieutenant, in the Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps. She served on active duty as an assistant staff judge advocate until July 2003. She transitioned into the Air Force reserve and retired in 2013 at the rank of lieutenant colonel. Throughout her military career, Ms. Fried served in numerous positions to include Chief of Military Justice at Travis Air Force Base, California, and at Bolling Air Force Base, District of Columbia. She also provided legal advice on plethora of issues, to include procurement matters, environmental law and personnel law. Ms. Fried also served as an executive officer to the 11th Wing Commander, Bolling Air Force Base, District of Columbia, and to the Staff Judge Advocate, Air Education and Training Command, Randolph, Air Force Base, Texas.