To the Honorable Members of the Defense Advisory Committee:

At the time of this September, it will have been one year since I first attended a meeting for this committee and gave public comments with a volume of documents that can easily followed by a letter in my absence months later. In the year since <u>I addressed the DAC-IPAD about being a victim of Unlawful</u> <u>Command Influence and subsequent wrongful incarceration still without relief</u>. My letters include and explain the who, what, where, when, why, and how and even offering reasonable and viable solutions based on courses of actions of the past and/or modified versions. Although the committee was very welcoming to my plight, to my knowledge there has been no real change, I have received no help nor assistance, or guidance on any potential relief system from anyone.

**Question:** Once all avenues have been exhausted, what is there a veteran to do to to reclaim their good name, recover damages, or file a legal suite against those responsible for the injustice?

I have been fighting to clear my name for nearly 10 years now and have yet to the see the corrective actions that would enable a way to make right what is terribly wrong for me personally, and the many others like me who have come after me who are also survivors of the animus of Unlawful Command Influence (UCI) in the Armed Forces over the past decade. As people of justice, what would you do if you had to walk a day in my shoes? What would you do when you realized there is no course of action for relief? I am genuinely asking because anyone on this committee would know better than I.

In this letter, I am reaching out for the purposes of expounding on my plight and highlight one thing that appears more recently to be the correlation of taking injustice returning it to justice while revealing the prejudice. What I am highlighting are several individual stories regarding a few of the brave souls who helped justice prevail that arguably embody the courage and spirit of leadership necessary to assist in the combatting Unlawful Command Influence that is continuing to ruin careers and lives.

Although the case types may vary, at **the root of the problem the problem is the same: UCI**. For this reason, *I hope to inspire those who may be gatekeepers of a simple testimony that may result in someone's freedom, clearing someone's name, and I pray for the return to a somewhat normal life, all things considered.* 

# The Heroic Whistleblowers in Military Legal Cases: Exposing Unlawful Command Influence

In military legal cases, unlawful command influence (UCI) still poses a serious threat to justice. However, there have been instances where courageous whistleblowers have stepped forward to shed light on these unlawful practices. Their heroic actions have not only exposed wrongdoing but also emphasized the need for transparency, integrity, and accountability within the military justice system.

## Case 1: United States v. Barry:

In the case of United States v. Barry, whistleblowers Rear Admiral Patrick J. Lorge and Captain David Wilson demonstrated exceptional bravery. They spoke out against unlawful command influence, even at the risk of personal and professional repercussions. Their actions exposed the pressure exerted by Admiral Crawford, the Navy's Judge Advocate General, and underscored the importance of upholding justice, regardless of rank.

## Case 2: United States v. Gallagher:

Another significant case involving unlawful command influence was United States v. Gallagher. Here, a brave Navy SEAL whistleblower challenged external influences on the trial of Chief Edward Gallagher, who faced charges of war crimes. Despite the loyalty within the SEAL community, the whistleblower prioritized justice and accountability, highlighting the need to protect the integrity of the military legal system.

# Case 3: United States v. Bergdahl:

United States v. Bergdahl exemplified the dangers of unlawful command influence. Whistleblowers brought attention to President Trump's remarks, which created a biased atmosphere during the trial. A military defense attorney with immense courage challenged the influence of the Commander-in-Chief, recognizing the importance of fair trials and judicial independence.

# Case 4: United States v. Gilmet:

In the case of US v. Gilmet, whistleblowers faced a difficult decision. They chose to expose a Lieutenant Colonel's misconduct and misuse of position, despite the risks to their careers and potential retaliation. These individuals demonstrated unwavering commitment to justice and the integrity of the military, setting an example for others to follow.

# In Conclusion:

The heroism displayed by whistleblowers in military legal cases cannot be overstated. Although some of the story's stem from acts of bullying or cowardice, the whistle blowers' virtuous actions eventually emerge and embody courage, integrity, and a deep sense of responsibility. By exposing unlawful command influence, they help to ensure that justice prevails and set a precedent for transparency, fairness, and accountability within the military justice system. It is essential to recognize, protect, and celebrate these whistleblowers, as their bravery contributes to the continuous improvement of the military legal system.

Thank you for the time and consideration regarding these matters as it is greatly appreciated.

Very Respectfully,

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