Charter
President's Military Spouse Commission

1. Advisory Committee's Official Designation: The committee shall be known as the President's Military Spouse Commission ("the Commission").

2. Authority: The President of the United States ("the President"), pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 14417, titled "Establishing the President's Military Spouse Commission" and dated August 3, 2026, and in accordance with 5 U.S.C. ch. 10 (commonly known as "the Federal Advisory Committee Act" or "FACA") and 41 C.F.R. § 102-3.50(b), is establishing this non-discretionary advisory committee.

3. Objectives and Scope of Activities: The Commission provides independent advice and recommendations on policies that affect military spouses and families, as set forth in section 4 below.

4. Description of Duties: The Commission, pursuant to E.O. 14417, shall advise and assist the President by:

   a. Monitoring the implementation of E.O. 14417.
   b. Liaising with military spouses to determine common areas of concern.
   c. Developing policies that address challenges faced by military spouses in key areas such as housing, employment, healthcare, education, and deployment-related support.
   d. Recommending to the President practicable actions to help ensure the overall well-being of military spouses and to improve the quality of life of military spouses.
   e. Providing the President with a report on the matters described in section 3 of E.O. 14417 at the end of each fiscal year for so long as the Commission exists and submitting a final report to the President prior to the termination of the Commission.

5. Agency or Federal Officer Receiving the Advisory Committee's Advice/Recommendations: The Commission reports to the President. The President or President's delegate shall be responsible for ensuring the reporting requirements of § 6(b) of the Act (codified at 5 U.S.C. 1005(b)) are appropriately fulfilled.

6. Support: The Department of War (DoW), through the Under Secretary of War for Personnel and Readiness (USW(P&R)), provides the necessary support for the Commission.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years: The estimated annual operating cost, to include travel, meetings, Federal staff payments, and contract support, is approximately $336,800.

   i. The estimated annual personnel cost to the DoW is 1 full-time equivalent at $296,800, which includes basic pay with cost-of-living allowance. Other Federal internal costs for the Commission are $18,000.
   ii. The Commission will be composed of up to 21 permanent members Consistent with E.O. 14417, members of the Commission are not compensated for their services, except for travel and per diem reimbursement for official Commission-related business.
   iii. The estimated reimbursement costs for the Commission staff and members are $22,000.

8. Designated Federal Officer: The Commission's Designated Federal Officer (DFO) shall be a Federal officer or employee, designated in accordance with 41 C.F.R. § 102-3.120 and DoW policy and procedures.

   The Commission's DFO, or in the absence of the Commission's DFO, a properly approved Alternate DFO, duly designated to the Commission in accordance with established DoW policy and procedures, will:

   a. Ensure that the Commission and its staff operate in accordance with the FACA and 41 C.F.R. part 102-3 ("the Final Rule") and fully comply with all applicable statutes, regulations, and DoW policies and procedures pertaining to the management of DoW Federal advisory committees.
   b. Attend all Commission and subcommittee meetings for the entirety of each meeting.
   c. Approve or call all Commission and subcommittee meetings.
   d. Adjourn any meeting when the DFO, or the Alternate DFO, determines adjournment to be in the public interest or required by governing regulations or DoW policy and procedures.
   e. Fulfill the requirements under § 10(b) of the FACA (codified at 5 U.S.C. 1009(b)) and maintain information on the activities of the Commission and provide such information to the public, as applicable.
   f. Ensure advisory committee members and subcommittee members, as applicable, receive the appropriate training (e.g., FACA overview, ethics training) for efficient operation and compliance with the FACA and Final Rule.

9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings: The estimated number of meetings is 12 per year.

10. Duration: The need for this advisory committee is continuing, subject to the Termination Section below.

11. Termination: Unless continued by the President, the Commission will terminate on August 3, 2028, consistent with E.O. 14417.

12. Membership and Designation: The Commission, pursuant to E.O. 14417, shall be composed of the spouses of the following senior military leaders, if applicable:

    a. Secretary of War.
    b. Secretary of the Army.
    c. Secretary of the Navy.
    d. Secretary of the Air Force.
    e. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
    f. Chief of Staff of the Army.
    g. Commandant of the Marine Corps.
    h. Chief of Naval Operations.
    i. Chief of Staff of the Air Force.
    j. Chief of Space Operations.
    k. Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

l. Commandant of the Coast Guard.
m. Sergeant Major of the Army.
n. Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps.
o. Chief Master Sergeant of the Space Force.
p. Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau.
q. Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
r. Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard.
s. Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy.
t. Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force.
u. Secretary of Homeland Security.
v. Other individuals that the Chair and Executive Director may invite to participate.

Members of the Commission who are listed in paragraphs 12.a.-u. above shall serve contingent on the duration of their spouse serving in or performing the duties of the roles listed above. Members of the Commission invited by the Chair or Executive Director shall be appointed by the Secretary of War or Deputy Secretary of War ("the DoW Appointing Authority") and in accordance with DoW policy, procedures, and written terms of service.

Commission members who are not full-time nor permanent part-time Federal civilian officers or employees, or active-duty members of the Uniformed Services, shall be appointed by the DoW Appointing Authority as experts or consultants pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 3109 to serve as special government employee (SGE) members. Commission members who are full-time or permanent part-time Federal civilian officers or employees, or active-duty members of the Uniformed Services, shall be designated by the DoW Appointing Authority pursuant to 41 C.F.R. § 102-3.130(a) to serve as regular government employee (RGE) members.

The spouse of the Secretary of War shall serve as the Chair, and the President shall designate the Executive Director of the Commission. If the spouse of the Secretary of War is unable to serve as Chair for any reason, then the Executive Director, pursuant to section 2(b) of E.O. 14417, shall perform the duties of the Chair until the President designates a new Chair.

Each Commission member is appointed to exercise their best judgment, without representing any particular point of view, and to discuss, deliberate, and act in a manner that is free from conflicts of interest and consistent with Federal ethics laws and regulations. Except for reimbursement of official Commission-related travel and per diem, members serve without compensation.

13. Subcommittees: The Commission, when necessary and consistent with the Commission's mission and DoW policy and procedures, may request that the DoW establish subcommittees, task forces, or working groups ("subcommittees") to support the Commission. Establishment of subcommittees shall be based upon a written determination, to include terms of reference, by the President or the USW(P&R), as the Commission's DoW Sponsor. All subcommittees operate in accordance with the FACA, 5 U.S.C. § 552b ("the Government in the Sunshine Act" or "the Sunshine Act"), governing Federal statutes and regulations, and DoW policy and procedures. All subcommittees will terminate when the Commission terminates.

Subcommittees shall not work independently of the Commission and shall report all their recommendations and advice solely to the Commission for its thorough deliberation and discussion at a publicly noticed and open Commission meeting, unless the meeting must be closed in accordance with one or more of the exemptions found in the Sunshine Act. Subcommittees have no authority to make decisions and recommendations, orally or in writing, on behalf of the Commission. Neither the subcommittee nor any of its members may provide updates or report directly to the DoW or any Federal officer or employee, or member of the Armed Forces, whether orally or in writing. If a majority of Commission members are appointed to a particular subcommittee, then that subcommittee may be required to operate pursuant to the same FACA notice and openness requirements that govern the Commission's operations.

Individual appointments to serve on Commission subcommittees, which are separate and distinct from appointments to the Commission itself, shall be approved by the DoW Appointing Authority for a term of service of one-to-two years, with annual renewal, in accordance with DoW policy and procedures. No member shall serve more than two consecutive terms of service on the subcommittee, unless approved by the DoW Appointing Authority. The DoW Appointing Authority shall appoint subcommittee leadership from among the membership previously approved to serve on the subcommittee in accordance with DoW policy and procedures, for a leadership term of service of one-to-two years, with annual renewal, not to exceed the member's approved subcommittee appointment.

Subcommittee members who are not full-time or permanent part-time Federal civilian officers or employees, or active-duty members of the Uniformed Services, shall be appointed as experts or consultants pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 3109 to serve as SGE members. Subcommittee members who are full-time or permanent part-time Federal civilian officers or employees, or active-duty members of the Uniformed Services, shall be designated pursuant to 41 C.F.R. § 102-3.130(a) to serve as RGE members. Each subcommittee member is appointed to exercise their own best judgment, without representing any particular point of view, and to discuss, deliberate, and act in a manner that is free from conflicts of interest and consistent with Federal ethics laws and regulations. Except for reimbursement of official Commission and subcommittee-related travel and per diem, subcommittee members serve without compensation. While the number of individuals appointed to each subcommittee may vary, no individual subcommittee shall have more than 15 members, unless otherwise provided in writing by the DoW Appointing Authority.

14. Recordkeeping: The records of the Commission are subject to the Federal Records Act and will be managed in accordance with General Record Schedule 6.2, Federal Advisory Committee Records, and other approved agency records disposition schedule, as well as the appropriate DoW policy and procedures. These records will be available for public inspection and copying, subject to 5 U.S.C. § 552.

15. Filing Date: August 27, 2026