## LAW & ORDER | The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate | June 2025

## **Nonjudicial Punishment**

Nonjudicial punishment (also referred to as an Article 15, in reference to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, which authorizes the action) is a tool that provides commanders with an essential and swift means of maintaining good order and discipline. A member must accept NJP as a forum for allegations of misconduct or demand trial by court-martial once NJP is offered by a commander. NJP is designed to promote behavioral changes in service members without the stigma that comes with a criminal conviction at trial. NJP lies between a Letter of Reprimand and a court-martial on the spectrum of the continuum of discipline, whose ultimate goal is to promote rehabilitation in service members to encourage them to adhere to standards.

The following NJPs were effectuated at Edwards AFB during the second quarter of 2025:

A Senior Airman (E-4) assigned to 412 AMXS committed assault, in violation of Article 128 (Assault). The member was punished with a reduction to the grade of Airman First Class (E-3) and a reprimand.

**A Senior Airman (E-4)** assigned to 412 AMXS failed to obey a general order or regulation and drove their vehicle drunk, in violation of Articles 92 (Failure to obey; general order or regulation) and 113 (Drunk driving). The member was punished with a reduction to the grade of Airman First Class (E-3) and a reprimand.

**A Senior Airman (E-4)** assigned to 412 AMXS failed to obey a general order or regulation and drove their vehicle drunk, in violation of Articles 92 (Failure to obey; general order or regulation) and 113 (Drunk driving). The member was punished with a reduction to the grade of Airman First Class (E-3) and a reprimand.

A Senior Airman (E-4) assigned to 412 AMXS was derelict in the performance of their assigned duties and drove their vehicle drunk, in violation of Articles 92 (Dereliction of duty) and 113 (Drunk driving). The member was punished with a reduction to the grade of Airman First Class (E-3) and a reprimand.

A Master Sgt. (E-7) assigned to 412 MXLS made a false official statement, in violation of Article 107 (Making a false official statement). The member was punished with a reduction to the grade of Technical Sergeant (E-6) (suspended) and a reprimand.

A Master Sgt. (E-7) assigned to 412 OMRS failed to obey a general order or regulation, committed assault, and relayed indecent language, in violation of Articles 92!(Failure to obey; general order or regulation), 128 (Assault), and 134 (Indecent language). The member was punished with a reduction to the grade of Technical Sergeant (E-6), forfeiture of \$2,471.00 pay for two months (suspended), and a reprimand.

A Master Sgt. (E-7) assigned to 412 SFS drove their vehicle drunk, in violation of Article 113 (Drunk Driving). The member was punished with a reduction to the grade of Technical Sergeant (E-6) (suspended), forfeiture of \$2,501.00 pay for two months (suspended), and a reprimand. The suspended reduction in grade was later suspended and mitigated to 30 days of extra duty.

An Airman First Class (E-3) assigned to 412 SFS failed to obey a general order or regulation and was derelict in the performance of their assigned duties, in violation of Article 92 (Failure to obey; general order or regulation) and (Dereliction of duty). The member was punished with a reduction to the grade of Airman First Class (E-3) with reduction to the grade of Airman (E-2) suspended and a reprimand.

A Staff Sgt. (E-5) assigned to 412 SFS negligently discharged their firearm, in violation of Article 134 (Firearm discharge; negligent). The member was punished with a reduction to the grade of Senior Airman (E-4), 30 days extra duty, forfeiture of \$1,670.00 pay for two months, and a reprimand.

An Airman First Class (E-3) assigned to 412 SFS was derelict in the performance of their assigned duties, in violation of Article 92 (Dereliction of duty). The member punished with a reduction to the grade of Airman (E-2) (suspended), forfeiture of \$1,181.00 pay for two months, and a reprimand. The suspended reduction in grade was later vacated.

An Staff Sgt. (E-5) assigned to 412 SFS was derelict in the performance of their assigned duties, in violation of Article 92 (Dereliction of duty). The member punished with a reduction to the grade of Senior Airman (E-4) (suspended), forfeiture of \$1,837.00 pay for two months, and a reprimand.

A Senior Airman (E-4) assigned to 412 SFS went AWOL on multiple occasions, malingered, disrespected a noncommissioned officer on multiple occasions, failed to obey a general order or regulation, and failed to obey other lawful orders, in violation of Articles 83 (Malingering), 86 (AWOL three days or less), 91 (Contempt/disrespect to noncommissioned officer, 92 (Failure to obey; general order or regulation) and (Failure to obey other lawful order). The member was punished with a reduction to the grade of Airman Basic (E-1), forfeiture of \$1,159.00 pay for two months (suspended), and a reprimand.

A First Lieutenant (O-1) assigned to 773 TS drove their vehicle drunk, in violation of Article 113 (Drunk Driving). The member was punished with forfeiture of \$1,000.00 pay for two months and a reprimand.

## **Administrative Discharges**

Involuntarily discharging a service member from the United States Air Force may be an appropriate action for a commander or civilian director to take when a member has demonstrated an inability to meet Air Force standards. Common bases for discharge include, but are not limited to: drug abuse, sexual assault, a civilian court conviction, or a series of minor misconduct. Discharges can result in one of three service characterizations: honorable, under honorable conditions (general), and under other than honorable conditions.

The following discharge action was completed during the first quarter of 2025:

An Airman Basic (E-1) assigned to 412 HCOS was involuntarily discharged for drug abuse. The member received a general service characterization.

An Airman First Class (E-3) assigned to 412 SFS was involuntarily discharged for pattern of misconduct. The member received a general service characterization.