



Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

March 14, 2019

General Joseph L. Lengyel
Chief, National Guard Bureau
1636 Defense Pentagon Suite 1E169
Washington, DC 20301-0001

General Lengyel:

I am writing today to formally request and invite the National Guard Bureau's Office of Complex Investigations (OCI) to conduct an independent, comprehensive review of the Wisconsin National Guard's sexual assault and harassment reporting procedures, investigation protocols, and accountability measures.

I understand the magnitude and the gravity of this request; however, I do not make this request lightly in light of allegations of sexual assault and harassment made by constituents and service members of Wisconsin's National Guard, and I believe an impartial review is critically important in light of these reports. I am requesting OCI to conduct a comprehensive assessment of open and closed investigations of sexual assault and harassment the scope of which should include but not be limited to:

- Conducting on-site interviews at all major Wisconsin National Guard locations;
- Review allegations made through state and federal lawmakers and officials;
- Review of allegations related to hostile work environment;
- Coordination with local law enforcement;
- Use of command-directed 15-6 investigations for sexual assault allegations;
- A statewide survey of Wisconsin National Guard's culture and climate regarding sexual assault and harassment; and
- Assessment of Wisconsin's adherence to and implementation of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program and recommendations for improving compliance with the program's requirements.

As should be the case in all workplaces, the service members of the Wisconsin National Guard deserve a work environment free from sexual assault and harassment, fear of retaliation for reporting sexual assault and harassment when it occurs, and inadequate accountability for perpetrators of sexual assault and harassment. I believe an independent review of Wisconsin's National Guard's past responses, current protocols, and recommendations for best practices will help us ensure the safety of the men and women in our National Guard. I appreciate your swift action and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tony Evers".

Tony Evers
Governor