

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 14, 2019

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

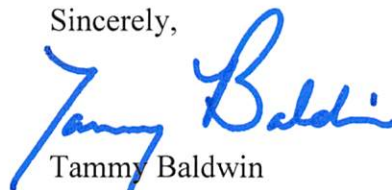
General Lengyel:

I am writing to request the National Guard Bureau's Office of Complex Investigations (OCI) conduct a comprehensive assessment of Wisconsin National Guard's sexual assault protocols, reporting mechanisms, investigations and accountability measures. Several Wisconsin constituents and National Guard service members have come forward with allegations of sexual harassment and assault, retaliation and inadequate accountability for those who commit sexual misconduct. I understand the Governor of Wisconsin needs to invite you into the state to conduct this review and I am confident that an invitation will be forthcoming.

This comprehensive review must produce a report that includes a top to bottom look at all open and closed sexual harassment and assault investigations. In addition, the scope of this assessment should include on-site interviews at all major Wisconsin National Guard locations; a review of all allegations identified through federal and state congressional submissions; allegations related to a hostile work environment; coordination with law enforcement; use of command directed 15-6 investigations for sexual assault allegations; and a statewide command climate survey. Lastly, the Department of Defense began a Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program in 2006. There have been several changes to the program since then and an assessment of how the Wisconsin National Guard has adhered to the SAPR program and any recommendations for improving their compliance with these best practices should be included.

I understand the seriousness of my request and I reached the conclusion that an impartial outside review was necessary in light of continued concerns from Wisconsin National Guard service members. The men and women of the Wisconsin National Guard deserve an environment free of sexual harassment and assault and I believe an impartial outside review of past actions, current protocols and future improvements is the best way to meet that objective. Thank you for your attention to these serious allegations and I look forward to working with you on this review.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

cc: The Honorable Tony Evers
Governor, State of Wisconsin