



THE IG UPDATE



ISSUE 23-2

November 2022

Flagging Actions and Commander Responsibilities

The USAICoE and Fort Huachuca IG identified a recent trend of commanders not lifting flags in a timely manner or not updating flags; for example, when the status changes from investigation to adverse action, or from adverse action to punishment.

A “flag” is suspension of favorable personnel action. Commanders at all levels are responsible for administering flags and converting flag codes during each phase. Flags will not be removed until the investigation or punishment is completed, charges are dropped, or the Soldier meets the standard (ACFT, ABCP).

Commander Responsibilities

Initiate flags in a timely manner. DA Form 268 **will be initiated and removed within 3 working days** when a Soldier’s status changes from favorable to unfavorable, and vice versa, then authenticated by the unit commander. A Flag must be initiated for each infraction and treated separately.

Counsel Soldiers on why they are being flagged, include an explanation of this action (flag code), what this code affects (ex: bar to reenlistment), the duration of this action (by phase), and how this action can be removed. The Soldier’s first-line supervisor may conduct the counseling.

For transferrable flags, explain to the flagged Soldier the losing command will upload transferable flags into an “Administrative Folder” within their OMPF where the gaining command may view and download these records, including Soldiers identified as successfully completing the Army Body Composition Program (ABCP). Losing command will maintain DA Form 268s on all PCSing flagged Soldiers for one (1) year.

- Can a Soldier PCS with an active flag on their records?

Yes – A Soldier may PCS with a transferrable flag, or with a non-transferrable flag if it is in the best interest of the Army.

- Is there any follow-up after I initiate a flag?

Yes – The commander must maintain documentation on all active flags, review unit flag reports monthly, counsel the flagged Soldier once their status changes from one code to another or from unfavorable to favorable, lift the flag when the status changes to favorable, and maintain flagging documents for one year from completion for assigned or attached soldiers.

- Who imposes Immediate Reenlistment Prohibition Codes (IMPREPR)?

HRC automatically imposes and removes IMREPR codes (Bar to Reenlistment) whenever a commander initiates/lifts flagging actions by processing the DA Form 268.

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References

- AR 15-6, *Procedures for Administrative Investigations and Boards of Officers.*
- AR 27-10, *Military Justice.*
- AR 600-8-2, *Suspension of Favorable Personnel Actions (Flag).*
- AR 600-9, *The Army Body Composition Program.*
- AR 600-20, *Army Command Policy.*
- DA PAM 600-24, *Health Promotion, Risk Reduction, and Suicide Prevention.* 14 April 2015.
- Army Directive 2022-05, *Army Combat Fitness Test.* 23 March 2022.