

Military Justice Review Panel: The 2024 Comprehensive Review and Assessment of the Uniform Code of Military Justice

Tara Osborn

Military Justice Review Panel, Vice-Chair

Tara Osborn (Vice-Chair) is a retired Army colonel and military lawyer who served as the 21st Chief Trial Judge of the U.S. Army. In that position, she presided over felony criminal trials, which included capital cases, oversaw the Army's worldwide judicial operations, and led all active duty and reserve judges of the Army Trial Judiciary. Before her appointment to the trial bench, she completed a U.S. Army War College fellowship as Special Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division, at the U.S. Department of Justice.

Colonel Osborn retired from the military in 2017, having served nearly 30 years on active duty, with over two decades of trial experience and with significant leadership experience in interagency policy and field operational assignments. She served at all levels of the Army Trial Judiciary; as a strategic planner on the Joint Staff in Washington, DC; Deputy Staff Judge Advocate and Staff Judge Advocate of the forward-deployed 2nd Infantry Division in Korea; litigation attorney with the U.S. Army Litigation Division and the Department of Defense Office of General Counsel; Chief of Criminal Law for III Corps and Fort Hood, Texas, and prosecutor with 1st Armored Division in Germany. She is a combat veteran of the Persian Gulf War with service in Iraq as an armored brigade legal advisor and operations officer. Her awards include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Valorous Unit Award, and the U. S. Department of State Superior Honor Award.

After retiring from the Army, she has been an active leader in the American Bar Association (ABA). She is the ABA National Military Judicial Fellow, an ABA President-appointed judicial advisor to the Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility, a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, and Past

Chair of the ABA's National Conference of Specialized Court Judges. In 2018, she joined the faculty of the National Judicial College at the University of Nevada where she continues to teach military law, jurisdiction, and capital litigation to judges from across the country.

She holds degrees from the University of South Carolina (B.A. and J.D.), the University of Virginia (M.P.A.), and the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's School (LL.M.), and Professional Certificates in Judicial Development and in Judicial Executive Leadership from the National Judicial College and Harvard Law School.

Written Materials Provided at CAAF Website:

- The Military Justice Review Panel 2024 Comprehensive Review and Assessment of the Uniform Code of Military Justice