

# ***Plea Agreements Under the UCMJ: A Comparative Service Approach***

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*Commissioner to the Honorable Kevin A. Ohlson, U.S. Court of Appeals  
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Mr. Monahan earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from the United States Naval Academy in 1995, and a Master of Arts degree in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland at College Park in 1996. He then served as a Surface Warfare Officer onboard two warships, before being selected to participate in the Navy Law Education Program at Boston College Law School where he earned his Juris Doctor degree in 2002.

His early assignments as a judge advocate included duty at Naval Legal Service Office (NLSO) Mid-Atlantic in Norfolk, VA, service on the COMUSNAVEUR/COMSIXTHFLT staff in Naples, Italy, and at NLSO Southeast, Naval Station Mayport, FL. He then deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan, serving as the Chief of Operational and International Law on the staff of NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan/Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan. In 2011, he earned an LL.M. in Litigation and Dispute Resolution from The George Washington University Law School. He then served in Jacksonville, FL as the Executive Officer of Region Legal Service Office Southeast and prosecuted cases as trial counsel.

Mr. Monahan next served in Washington, DC as a military judge, and later as the Circuit Military Judge for the Northern Judicial Circuit, followed by serving as the Circuit Military Judge for the Central Judicial Circuit in Norfolk, VA. He then served as the Deputy Assistant Judge Advocate General (Criminal Law). He served as the Chief Judge, United States Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals from August 2020 through August 2022, and from September 2022 until January 2023, he served as the Acting Chief Judge, Department of the Navy.

Since January 2023, Mr. Monahan has served as the Senior Level Commissioner to Chief Judge Kevin Ohlson of the United States Court of Appeals

for the Armed Forces. He is licensed to practice law in Massachusetts, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia.

**Written Materials Provided at CAAF Website:**

- Brief for “Plea Agreements under the UCMJ: A Comparative Service Approach” Panel
- Model Plea Agreement for Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard
- Model Plea Agreement for Army
- Plea Agreement for Department of the Air Force