



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY ARMOR CENTER AND FORT KNOX  
50 3RD AVENUE, SUITE 229  
FORT KNOX, KENTUCKY 40121-5230

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

ATZK-JA

27 August 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR

Commanders, All Units Reporting Directly to This Headquarters  
Directors and Chiefs, Staff Offices/Departments, This Headquarters

SUBJECT: Thunderbolt Policy Memo No. 44-3 – Relief for Cause

1. References.

- a. AR 600-20, Army Command Policy, 7 June 2006.
- b. AR 623-3, Evaluation Reporting System, 10 August 2007.

2. Relief for cause is an extremely serious action. Accordingly, commanders should consider a relief for cause as a last resort after appropriate leadership methods, such as counseling, mentorship, and/or corrective training have failed. When undertaking a relief for cause, commanders will ensure their actions strictly apply the policies prescribed by the referenced regulations.

3. An officer in a command position or a noncommissioned officer (NCO) in a command sergeant major position will not be relieved for cause until the Commander, US Army Armor Center and Fort Knox, first approves the relief in writing. The officer or NCO may be suspended from assigned duties pending the decision on whether or not to relieve. All such actions, however, will be first coordinated with the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

  
JAMES M. MILANO  
Major General, USA  
Commanding

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