



Judge Advocate General

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do October 2016

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INITIAL CHAIN OF COMMAND INPUT – COURT MARTIAL COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

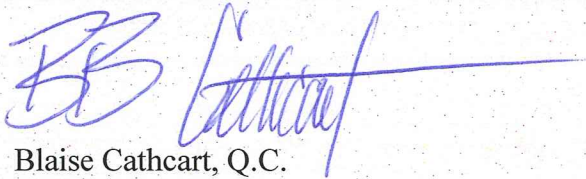
1. As I noted at Armed Forces Council on 20 September 2016, the Comprehensive Review of Canada's court martial system that I initiated in May of this year is now underway. Foreign subject matter expert consultations are ongoing, and public consultation will begin in mid-October.
2. To effectively carry out its mandate, the Court Martial Comprehensive Review Team (CMCRT) must consult with the users of the court martial system: members of the chain of command. I would be grateful for your help in making this consultation happen.
3. The CMCRT would ideally receive input from stakeholders within your commands at the command level, the formation level, and the unit level. Disciplinary considerations at each of these levels can be different, so input from each level will be of value to the CMCRT.
4. Detailed information on the various topics that are under study by the CMCRT can be found at the following links, **which will be active beginning on 11 October 2016:**
 - <http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/about-reports-pubs-military-law-court-martial-comprehensive-review/index.page>
 - <http://www.forces.gc.ca/fr/a-propos-rapports-pubs-droit-militaire-revision-globale-cour-martiale/index.page>

These web pages also include options for providing feedback to the CMCRT through either email or a web-based form.

5. If you are willing to identify individuals within your organization who would provide input on the various topics and considerations being considered by the CMCRT, it would be of significant benefit to the team. Any submission can be sent to the CMCRT **on or after 11 October and before 25 November 2016.**

6. Should any of your staffs so desire, members of the Court Martial Comprehensive Review Team will make themselves available to provide more detailed or personalized briefings on the court martial system or the comprehensive review. Please feel free to contact my Deputy JAG for Military Justice, Colonel Rob Holman, or the CMCRT's Senior Legal and Policy Advisor, Lieutenant-Commander Mike Madden, to arrange for briefings.

7. The CMCRT is aware of the vital importance that I place on submissions from the chain of command, as well as my expectation that they will diligently consider all chain of command input as they conduct their analysis and draft their final report. I would be grateful for your assistance in obtaining those perspectives.



Blaise Cathcart, Q.C.
Major-General
Judge Advocate General
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