



**NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU**  
111 SOUTH GEORGE MASON DRIVE  
ARLINGTON VA 22204-1373

ARNG-HRH (135)

21 June 2023

**MEMORANDUM FOR ALL Army National Guard Military Personnel Officers**

**SUBJECT: Ecclesiastical Endorsement (DD Form 2088) of ARNG Chaplains and Chaplain Candidates (PPOM 23-010)**

1. References. See Annex A.
2. Purpose and requirement of Ecclesiastical Endorsement (DD Form 2088) for all Army chaplains:
  - a. Statement of Ecclesiastical Endorsement (DD Form 2088, Dated JAN 2019) certifies the endorsement of the applicant for service by a religious organization that meets and maintains all administrative requirements of Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI 1304.28) and is on file at the Department of the Army, Chief of Chaplains Personnel Directorate (DACH).
  - b. The nature of the application must be marked on DD Form 2088 as follows: Chaplain Candidate, Active Duty, Reserve, or National Guard, Withdrawal of Endorsement. The official DD Form 2088 must be sent by the DoD endorsing agent (EA) directly to the DACH POC via email.
  - c. The DD Form 2088 must be included in the officer's Army Military Human Resource Record (AMHRR) and updated in iPerms, as applicable, at various points in the officer's career (e.g., reappointment from 56X to 56A, transfer to another Army component or service, withdrawal, etc.).
  - d. Failure to maintain or secure a valid DD Form 2088 from a recognized DoD EA will render the chaplain or chaplain candidate subject to involuntary separated in accordance with provisions in reference d.
3. A change in a chaplain or chaplain candidate status will be reflected on the DD Form 2088 as either voluntary or involuntary.
  - a. Voluntary change of DoD EA. The ARNG chaplain or chaplain candidate will:
    - (1) Contact the current and prospective DoD EA and inform them of the request to seek another DoD EA.

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(2) Provide the current ecclesiastical endorsement date of withdrawal to the prospective DoD EA. The prospective DoD EA will date the new ecclesiastical endorsement the next day after withdrawal to ensure continuing endorsement coverage.

(3) Request a copy of the new DD Form 2088 from the gaining DoD EA and a copy of the losing DoD EAs updated DD Form 2088.

(4) Complete the "Request for Acceptance of Change in Ecclesiastical Endorsement" memo (enclosure 1) on appropriate letterhead.

(5) Send both gaining and losing DD Form 2088 copies and the completed "Request for Acceptance of Change in Ecclesiastical Endorsement" memo (enclosure 1) to the POC listed in paragraph 9.

(6) If the request is approved, both the gaining DoD EA and losing DoD EA must send "for record" copies of the DD Form 2088 directly to the POC at the Army Office of the Chief of Chaplains (OCCH). The chaplain or chaplain candidate will coordinate upload of the new DD Form 2088 into iPerms.

(7) The Army Chief of Chaplains reserves the right to approve or disapprove any request(s) or change(s) to the chaplain or chaplain candidate DD Form 2088.

b. Involuntary change of DoD EA. The ARNG chaplain or chaplain candidate will:

(1) Receive a "Notification of Revocation of Ecclesiastical Endorsement" from the Senior Army Chaplain (ARNG) at NGB that the current DoD EA ecclesiastical endorsement has been withdrawn. The chaplain or chaplain candidate must immediately cease any religious support duties, notify their supervisory chaplain and command of their change in status, and acknowledge the notification as indicated within 30 days of receipt.

(2) Complete a "Course of Action in Response to Loss of Ecclesiastical Endorsement" memo (enclosure 2) as appropriate. The chaplain or chaplain candidate will be provided 90 days from the date of receipt of indicated memo to secure a valid ecclesiastical endorsement from a recognized DoD EA.

(3) Both the "Notification of Revocation of Ecclesiastical Endorsement" and the "Course of Action in Response to Loss of Ecclesiastical Endorsement" memorandum must be returned to the POC in Paragraph 9 within 30 calendar days of receipt.

(4) If the chaplain or chaplain candidate indicates that they will seek a new DoD EA on the "Course of Action in Response to Loss of Ecclesiastical Endorsement"

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memorandum the chaplain or chaplain candidate must accomplish the steps as prescribed in paragraph 3. a. within 90 days of receipt or be subject to involuntary separation as indicated in reference d.

(5) The Army Chief of Chaplains reserves the right to approve or disapprove any request(s) or change(s) to the chaplain or chaplain candidate's DD Form 2088.

5. All Army chaplains and chaplain candidates are required to abide by the conditions of ecclesiastical endorsement as set forth by their respective DoD EA.

6. All Army chaplains are required to keep their DoD EA updated as to educational status (if applicable), contact information, or other demographic information as required by the respective DoD EA.

7. All Army chaplains are to ensure that their Army Military Human Resource Record (AMHRR) is updated in iPerms to reflect any change with their respective DD Form 2088.

8. The guidance indicated in this memorandum will remain in effect until superseded and will be reflected in the next issuance of NGR 600-100.

9. Point of contact is Chaplain (MAJ) Jeffrey Cole, ARNG Personnel Readiness Chaplain, at DSN 327-3201, 703-607-3201 or [jeffrey.d.cole43.mil@army.mil](mailto:jeffrey.d.cole43.mil@army.mil).

2. Encls

1. Acceptance of Change of DoD EA
2. DD Form 2088 COA Memo

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## **ANNEX A**

### **1. References:**

- a. 10 U.S.C. 136, 533(a)(1), 643, 827, 3353(a)(1), and 5600(a)(1)
- b. Department of Defense Instruction 1304.28 (The Appointment and Service of Chaplains), 12 May 2021
- c. Army Regulation 135-100 (Appointment of Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the Army), 01 September 1994
- d. Army Regulation 135-175 (Army National Guard and Reserve Separation of Officers), 30 March 2020
- e. Army Regulation 165-1 (Army Chaplain Corps Activities), 23 June 2015
- f. National Guard Regulation 600-100 (Commissioned Officers Federal Recognition and Related Personnel Actions), 06 July 2020
- g. HQDA Chief of Chaplains FY23 Accessions SOP, 1 October 2022