



CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU INSTRUCTION

NGB-J1
DISTRIBUTION: A

CNGBI 0300.02
12 July 2021


NATIONAL GUARD SURVIVOR SENSING SESSIONS

References: See Enclosure B.

1. Purpose. This instruction establishes policy and assigns responsibilities to support ongoing National Guard (NG) Survivor Sensing Sessions conducted by the National Guard Bureau (NGB) and The Adjutants General in accordance with reference a.
2. Cancellation. None.
3. Applicability. This instruction applies to the National Guard Bureau, the Army National Guard (ARNG) of the United States, and the Air National Guard (ANG) of the United States in accordance with references a through c.
4. Policy. It is NGB policy to ensure that concerns from family members of deceased NG Soldiers and Airmen are identified and addressed. This instruction outlines the overall intent and implementation of the NG Survivor Sensing Sessions. In accordance with reference d, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau (CNGB) or his representative will meet periodically with representative groups of survivors of deceased members of the ANG and the ARNG to receive feedback from those survivors regarding matters affecting such survivors. Sensing sessions will consist of no more than nine survivors and will be led by an officer with the rank of at least Brigadier General/O7. Other individuals may be identified and called upon as needed.
 - a. In order to receive feedback from NG survivors, State NG and NGB senior leaders will provide opportunities to communicate directly with survivors. This policy ensures that the CNGB, the Director of the ANG, and the Director of the ARNG will be aware of NG matters requiring attention or further coordination to be addressed properly with Headquarters, Department of the Army, and the Department of the Air Force.
 - b. Sensing sessions provide survivors with an opportunity to ensure NG senior leadership is aware of their concerns. After a concern is identified and addressed, feedback is provided to the survivor. It is important that NG senior leadership is able to identify individual and systemic issues during sensing sessions. Sensing sessions will allow State and senior NGB leadership to raise concerns to respective service components and NGB Directorates.

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5. Definitions. None.
6. Responsibilities. See Enclosure A.
7. Summary of Changes. This is the initial publication of CNGBI 0300.02.
8. Releasability. This instruction is approved for public release; distribution is unlimited. It is available at <<https://www.ngbpmc.ng.mil>>.
9. Effective Date. This instruction is effective upon publication and must be revised, reissued, cancelled, or certified as current every five years.



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Enclosures:

- A -- Responsibilities
- B -- References
- GL -- Glossary

ENCLOSURE A
RESPONSIBILITIES

1. CNGB. The CNGB will:

- a. Establish a biannual meeting with the Survivor Advisory Work Group (SAWG) to discuss concerns for all survivors.
- b. Ensure long-term case management system of support for eligible survivors.
- c. Provide advice and recommendations regarding matters affecting survivors and their families. Concerns will then be brought to the Chief of Staff of the Army and Air Force Chief of Staff.

2. TAGs. TAGs will:

- a. Ensure communication between NG Joint Force Headquarters-State and the NGB to coordinate the scheduling of sensing sessions.
- b. Appoint a State lead to gather information such as best practices, trends, concerns of the families of the fallen, and corrective actions within the State.
- c. Ensure synchronization with program requirements.
- d. As requested, identify a combination of up to nine ANG and ARNG survivors, and one officer with the rank of at least Brigadier General/O7 to facilitate discussion, who can participate in individual sensing sessions held quarterly with NGB and State leadership.

3. Manpower and Personnel Directorate (NGB-J1). NGB-J1 will:

- a. Provide program management support for all sensing sessions.
- b. Identify NGB representatives to participate in individual sensing sessions with National Guard survivors and State leadership on a quarterly basis.
- c. Provide findings to the CNGB after each sensing session.
- d. Provide feedback to State leadership of ongoing and resolved concerns.
- e. Participate in SAWGs and communicate sensing session findings with SAWG representatives.

ENCLOSURE B

REFERENCES

PART I. REQUIRED

- a. National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Section 580B, 20 December 2019, "Meetings of Officials of the Department of Defense with Representative Groups of Survivors of Deceased Members of the Armed Forces"
- b. Constitution of the United States, Article 1, Section 8
- c. Title 32 U.S. Code, "National Guard," Section 315, "Detail of Regular Members of Army and Air Force to Duty with National Guard"
- d. Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 1300.18, 08 January 2008, "Department of Defense (DoD) Personnel Casualty Matters, Policies, and Procedures," Incorporating Change 1, 14 August 2009

PART II. RELATED

- e. Army Regulation AR 638-8, 07 June 2019, "Army Casualty Program"
- f. Public Law 113-66, Section 633, 31 August 2019, "Survivor Outreach Services"
- g. DoD Directive 5105.77, 30 October 2015, "National Guard Bureau (NGB)," Incorporating Change 1, 10 October 2017
- h. Title 10 U.S. Code, "Armed Forces," Chapter 1003, "Reserve Components Generally," Section 10103, "Basic Policy for Order into Federal Service"
- i. National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014, (Public Law 113-66), 26 December 2013, Section 633, "Improved Assistance for Gold Star Spouses and Other Dependents"
- j. Air Force Instruction 36-3009, 30 August 2018, "Airman and Family Readiness Centers," (Supplement, 04 February 2020, "Airman Family and Readiness Centers")
- k. Air Force Instruction 36-3002, 20 June 2017, "Casualty Services," (Supplement, 11 May 2018)
- l. Air Force Instruction 34-501, 16 April 2019, "Mortuary Affairs Program"

GLOSSARY

PART I. ACRONYMS

ANG	Air National Guard
ARNG	Army National Guard
CNGB	Chief of the National Guard Bureau
NG	National Guard
NGB	National Guard Bureau
NGB-J1	Manpower and Personnel Directorate
TAGs	The Adjutants General
SAWG	Survivor Advisory Working Group

PART II. DEFINITIONS

(NONE)