



The South Carolina National Guard Inspector General's Office Quarterly Newsletter



1st Quarter FY25

Pg. 1

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DD 137-3 Dependency Statement - Parent Update

DFAS recently released new guidance regarding Army secondary dependency claims. The notarized "Child Support Statement" and "Co-Habitation Statement" will be replaced with the DD Form 137-3 Dependency Statement - Parent effective March 2018. Going forward, the DD Form 137-3 will be the only form accepted to file Army secondary dependency claims. The form and more information can be found [here](#).

IG Unit Visit Information Update

The Inspector General's office is currently scheduling unit visits which are slated to start this coming calendar year with more information to follow. This information will be disseminated via the SCNG SCIP / GKN page. The purpose of IG unit visits is to inform Soldiers of emerging trends, leadership priorities, and policy changes. These visits will target M-day unit leadership and unit full time staff. The intent of IG unit visits is to train Soldiers of the IG's capabilities, functions, and how we can bolster the Chain of Command. The IG's office has training material such as brochures, flyers, and posters to educate and distribute to all formations and units.



Fall / Winter Safety 2024 Guidance

Currently, the Army is placing special emphasis on winter and cold-weather safety, cold-weather injuries, and slippery conditions as they pose upcoming challenges. **Here** you will find resources designed to assist you in lessening the risks of the winter season. We must continue to set the standard and ensure that our missions are conducted safely while preparing Soldiers, civilians, and family members for the hazards of off-duty activities. Extended holiday leave and rapidly changing weather conditions pose risks and informing Soldiers now will help them mitigate future hazards.





The South Carolina National Guard Inspector General's Office Quarterly Newsletter



1st Quarter FY25

Pg. 2

IG Led Inspector Training

The SCNG IG's office is providing inspector training in the TAG auditorium, located at 1 National Guard Rd., inside the Adjutant General building. The next IG led inspector led training class is on Wed, Nov 13, 2024. The class POC is Mr. Steven C. Barthmaier, located in the IG's office at (803) 299-4360. Below you will find upcoming dates for the IG led inspector training.

FY25

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Palmetto Guardian Podcast

The SCARNG Public Affairs Office (PAO) produces Palmetto Guardian, a podcast designed to cover relevant topics for Soldiers, Airmen, and their families. Guest speakers are invited to discuss their specific areas of expertise, upcoming events, awareness campaigns, holidays, policy changes, and regulatory updates. Palmetto Guardian can be found on most podcast platforms as well as the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service, [here](#).

Political Activities Guidance 2024

2024 political activities guidance [here](#) was previously released by the SCARNG Staff Judge Advocate General's office. Because rules vary depending on an employee's status, it is extremely important that employees who are engaging in political activity know which rules apply. DoD personnel must consider contextual factors when engaging in political activity, on and off duty.

2024 Social Media Guidance

The U.S. Army released 2024 social media and online conduct guidance [here](#). Soldiers and their families are encouraged to use social media responsibly, ensuring personal accounts are clearly identified and DoD symbols aren't used to imply endorsement. They must uphold Army Values and take responsibility for their online content, following guidelines to ensure safety and professionalism.



IG Led Investigating Officer Training

The SCNG IG's office is providing investigating officer familiarization training in the TAG auditorium, located at 1 National Guard Rd., inside the Adjutant General building. The next IG investigating officer familiarization training class will be this coming March with details to follow on the SCNG SCIP / GKN site. The class POC is SFC Travis B. Maroney, located in the IG's office at (803) 299-1683.

Updated Army Directives Guidance

On 14 June, 2024, the SECARMY released Army Directive 2024-07 (Handling Protest, Extremist, and Criminal Gang Activities) [here](#) and Army Directive 2024-08 (Reporting Prohibited Activities) [here](#). AD 2024-07 requires "Commanders to train troops on recognizing and avoiding extremist activities, address these activities in their units, and report incidents to the Department of Defense Office of Inspector General". AD 2024-08 requires, "Commanders or other appropriate authorities will notify an appropriate Army IG within 60 calendar days for Appropriate Army Authorities of Reserve components of making a decision to refer a prohibited activity allegation." Commanders should read AD 2024-07 and AD 2024-08 to understand their requirements.