

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS, AIRBORNE & RANGER TRAINING BRIGADE 6850 BARRON AVE., BLDG. 85 FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905

ATSH-RB

MEMORANDUM FOR CPT Joseph Lawhorn, 5th Ranger Training Battalion, Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905

SUBJECT: Letter of Concern

- 1. On 20 November 2014, you conducted mandatory suicide prevention for 5th RTB at an auditorium on the University of North Georgia campus. During this training, you advocated, or were perceived to advocate, for Christianity and used Christian scripture and solutions. This is in direct contrast with Army Regulation 600-20 and violates the Army's Equal Opportunity Policy. As a result, an individual in attendance wrote an article about the event on http://militaryatheists.org.
- 2. As the battalion chaplain, you are entrusted with the emotional and spiritual wellbeing of the Soldiers in the battalion. You, above all others, must be cognizant of the various beliefs held by diverse Soldiers. During mandatory training briefings, it is imperative you create an environment of tolerance and understanding. I trust you will take the steps necessary to ensure future non-religious briefings will adhere to Army regulations and policy.
- 3. This Letter of Concern is administrative in nature and imposed under the provisions of AR 600-37 and not as punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. You are advised I intend to file this letter in your local personnel file for a period not to exceed three years. IAW AR 600-37, paragraph 3-4b, and prior to directing local filing, I will consider any matters you present to me.
- 4. You will acknowledge receipt of this letter of concern in writing. You may forward any matters you wish me to consider in extenuation, mitigation, or rebuttal within seven (7) calendar days. I will consider any matters you submit before I make a final decision on whether to direct local filing or withdrawal of this letter.

Encls

DAVID G. FIVECOAT

Jul A Frick

COL, IN

Commanding