

MCRC FROST CALL 024-20 DATED 7 May 2020

From: Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruiting Command

Subj: EXTENSION OF PLATOON LEADERS CLASS-LAW PROGRAM TO APPLICANTS
IN THEIR THIRD YEAR OF LAW SCHOOL WHO WILL HAVE COMPLETED A
STATE BAR EXAMINATION BUT WILL NOT HAVE RECEIVED A LAW LICENSE
PRIOR TO ATTENDING OFFICER CANDIDATES SCHOOL

Ref: (a) MCRCO 1131.1 "Marine Corps Recruiting Command Law Programs"

Encl: (1) NAVMC 11729 PLATOON LEADERS CLASS (LAW) 3L SERVICE AGREEMENT

1. Purpose. To notify all levels within Marine Corps Recruiting Command (MCRC) of a new policy extending the Platoon Leaders Class-Law (PLC-Law) Program to applicants in their third (3L) year of law school who will take the bar examination following graduation but will not have received a law license prior to attending Officer Candidates School (OCS).

2. Background

a. The reference establishes the PLC-Law Program and restricts eligibility to college seniors accepted for enrollment at American Bar Association accredited law schools, as well as first (1L) or second (2L) year students at these schools. The reference also establishes the Officer Candidate Class-Law (OCC-Law) Program, for which 3Ls are eligible. Prior to attending OCS, OCC-Law applicants are required to secure admission to practice law before the bar of a federal court or the highest court of a state or the District of Columbia.

b. Most 3Ls will take the bar examination during the July following their graduation from law school (or during February, for those who graduate during the middle of the academic year). The fifty states and the District of Columbia all administer separate bar examinations, with notifications of results and swearing-in occurring from as early as two months to as late as seven months following completion of the examination itself. As a practical matter, this has meant that 3Ls interested in the OCC-Law Program must wait anywhere from seven to twelve months following graduation from law school for the opportunity to attend OCS. This "3L gap" has resulted in the loss of many highly-qualified 3L prospective applicants, who are financially unable to wait up to a year to attend OCS.

3. Information

a. Eligibility. Effective immediately, eligibility for the PLC-Law Program is extended to 3L applicants who have registered for and will take the next available bar examination of a state or the District of Columbia but who will not have received a law license prior to attending OCS. Platoon Leaders Class-Law 3L (PLC-Law 3L) applicants must meet all other PLC-Law Program requirements.

b. Service Agreement. The enclosure contains the approved service agreement that will be used to contract PLC-Law 3L applicants.

c. Financial Programs. PLC-Law 3L members are not eligible for the Marine Corps Tuition Assistance Program (MCTAP), the Financial Assistance Program (MCFAP), or the College Loan Repayment Program (CLRP) at this time.

d. Training Requirement. PLC-Law 3L candidates will attend the OCS 10-week commissioning course only.

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e. Mission Credit. PLC-Law 3L contracts will be counted towards the OCC mission.

f. Commission. PLC-Law 3L candidates who successfully complete OCS will not be tendered a commission before providing proof of bar admission, which must be done within 60 days of graduation from OCS. Candidates will remain in an inactive status in the Individual Ready Reserve while pending submission of proof of bar admission during this 60-day period.

g. Permissive Temporary Additional Duty (PTAD). Members are eligible for active-duty PTAD upon commissioning, and must communicate with the MCRC PLC-Law Program Manager to seek out pre-TBS opportunities.

h. Assignment to The Basic School (TBS). PLC-Law 3L officers will be assigned to a Basic Officer Course (BOC) at The Basic School (TBS) upon submission of proof of admission to practice law. For example, PLC-Law 3L candidates attending a Fall OCC class starting in September, will graduate in November and will have until January, sixty days after OCS graduation, to submit proof of bar admission to MCRC. Requests for extensions to submit proof of admission materials may be sent to the PLC-Law Program Manager. Upon submission of proof of bar admission, officers may be slated to attend the next available BOC of the fiscal year, generally between March-May.

i. Bar Examination Failures

(1) Officer Candidate Class-Ground (OCC-Ground) Program option.

(a) Officer candidates in the PLC-Law 3L Program who learn, while attending OCS, that they have failed the bar examination will be permitted to complete training. Upon successful completion of OCS, they will be offered a commission as an unrestricted ground officer if they have met all accession criteria for the OCC-Ground Program. They then are eligible to report to the next available BOC, generally two days later; however, a request can be made to attend a later BOC.

(b) Candidates who complete OCS and learn that they have failed the bar during the 60 days following OCS graduation will also be offered a commission as an unrestricted ground officer through the PLC-Ground Program. If they choose to accept a ground commission, they must sign an OCC-Ground contract and will be transferred from the PLC-Law 3L Program to the OCC-Ground Program. They then will be retained within their respective Officer Selection Team's pool and will remain in the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) pending execution of orders to TBS. Assignment to specific TBS BOCs will be coordinated by the Officer Selection Officer, and will be made based upon the needs of the Marine Corps.

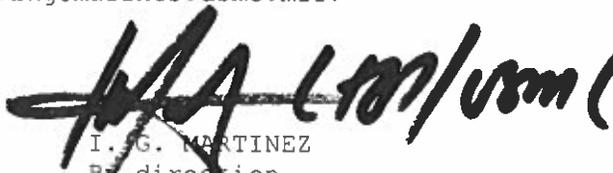
(2) OCC-Law Program. Officer candidates who have failed the bar examination and choose not to accept a commission as an unrestricted ground officer, upon completion of OCS, will be disenrolled from the PLC-Law 3L Program. A former PLC-Law candidate who subsequently takes, passes, and is admitted to the bar of any state or the District of Columbia within one year of the date of graduation from OCS, may apply for reenrollment through the OCC-Law Program with an appropriate District-level waiver; if approved, the former candidate will not be required to complete OCS again. A MCRC-level exception-to-policy waiver is required for reenrollment applications submitted more than one year after the date of graduation from OCS; a

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decision will be made concurrently on whether or not the former candidate
will need to complete OCS again.

4. Action. This FROST Call is effective upon receipt and will be
incorporated into the reference. Boards may consider PLC-Law 3L applicants
for selection to attend OCC-235. The Recruiting Regions are responsible for
selection of applicants under this FROST Call and will apply PLC-Law 3L
applicants towards OCC submission missions.

5. The point of contact for this FROST Call is Captain G. L. Irving USMC,
Deputy Staff Judge Advocate and PLC Law Program Manager, MCRC at (703) 432-
9262, or by e-mail at Geoffrey.Irving@marines.usmc.mil.


I. G. MARTINEZ
By direction

SERVICE AGREEMENT (1100)
PLATOON LEADERS CLASS (LAW) 3L
NAVMC 11729 (6-10) (EF)
FOUO - Privacy sensitive when filled in.

1. In connection with my application for enrollment in the **PLATOON LEADERS CLASS (PLC) (LAW) 3L** program of the United States Marine Corps, I hereby acknowledge that:

a. Final approval of my application for enrollment in the **PLC (LAW) 3L** program as an officer candidate will be determined by the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

b. Upon reporting for training to Officer Candidate School (OCS), I will be required to participate in training for a minimum of four (4) weeks of the 10-Week Commissioning Program, unless sooner disenrolled for cause, before any voluntary request for disenrollment will be considered. If I choose to terminate attendance at OCS prior to the requisite four weeks of training, without the concurrence of the Commanding Officer of OCS, the Marine Corps is under no obligation to settle resultant travel expenses.

(1) If I am disenrolled from OCS and not recommended for future attendance by the Commanding Officer of OCS, I will be disenrolled from the **PLC (LAW) 3L** program.

(2) If I am disenrolled from OCS but recommended for future attendance by the Commanding Officer of OCS, I will be disenrolled from the **PLC (LAW) 3L** program and, if eligible, have the opportunity to reapply to the next available board.

(3) If I voluntarily disenroll from OCS at any time during the course of training, I will also be disenrolled from the **PLC (LAW) 3L** program.

c. I am entitled to pay and allowances while attending OCS not less than those prescribed for pay grade E-5.

d. Upon satisfactory completion of all commissioning requirements, I understand that I must choose to either accept or decline a commission if one is tendered to me, and that deferred acceptance is not authorized. If I decline commission, I will be disenrolled from the **PLC (LAW) 3L** program and may request reenrollment to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, provided I remain otherwise qualified.

e. A commission in the Marine Corps is held at the pleasure of the President of the United States.

f. Upon acceptance of a commission, I understand that I incur a Military Service Obligation (MSO) of eight (8) years in the Marine Corps from the date of appointment to commissioned grade.

(1) Any portion of this eight (8) year MSO not served on active duty will be served on inactive duty as a member of the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) or as a member of the Selected Marine Corps Reserve (SMCR).

g. A resignation of my commission submitted prior to completion of this eight (8) year period will normally be rejected and, after this period, may be accepted or rejected by the President, as the needs of the service may then require.

h. I am either registered to take the bar examination of a state or the District of Columbia or have taken the examination but have not yet received the results thereof. As a condition of my application for enrollment in the **PLC (LAW) 3L** program, I understand that, regardless of whether I successfully complete training at OCS, I will not be tendered a commission before providing proof of my admission to practice law before the bar of a federal court or the highest court of a state (or the District of Columbia).

(1) Upon successful completion of OCS, I will be continued on, or assigned to inactive duty as an officer candidate for a period of not more than sixty (60) days following graduation from OCS. If I do not provide proof of bar admission within this sixty (60) day period, I will be disenrolled from the **PLC (LAW) 3L** program.

(2) Should I fail the bar examination but successfully complete OCS, I will be disenrolled from the **PLC (LAW) 3L** program. I may, however, request that my contract be changed to **OFFICER CANDIDATE CLASS (GROUND)** in order to accept a commission and be assigned an unrestricted GROUND Military Occupational Specialty (MOS). If, during authorized leave and at my own expense, I subsequently take and pass a bar examination, I can apply for designation as a Student Judge Advocate (4401) upon approval from the Commandant of the Marine Corps and the Judge Advocate General of the Navy.

i. I will notify my Officer Selection Officer upon learning the results of my bar examination.

j. Upon successful completion of OCS, receipt of proof of admission to practice law before the bar of a federal court or the highest court of a state (or the District of Columbia), and acceptance of appointment to commissioned grade, I will be assigned a primary MOS of Student Judge Advocate (4401) and further be assigned to The Basic School (TBS) for commissioned officer training.

- k. Upon successful completion of TBS I will be assigned to the first available Basic Lawyer Course at Naval Justice School.

- l. Upon successful completion of Naval Justice School, I will be assigned a primary MOS of Judge Advocate (4402). Having been found qualified under pertinent statutes and regulations I will be granted that constructive service for which I am eligible for the purpose of determining my lineal position, grade, and eligibility for promotion. Such constructive service shall not exceed three (3) years.

- 2. I consent to serve on extended active duty for a minimum of forty-eight (48) months as a commissioned officer from the date I report to TBS. I understand that a request for release from active duty prior to completion of this period will normally be rejected.
 - a. I understand that participation in any Marine Corps Financial Assistance Programs or incentive programs may incur additional obligated active duty service.

 - b. United States Code, Title 10, Chapter 39, Sections 671a and 671b currently provide as follows:
 - (1) 671a. Members: service extension during war. Unless terminated at an earlier date by the Secretary concerned, the period of active service of any member of an armed force is extended for the duration of any war in which the United States may be engaged and for six months thereafter.

 - (2) 671b. Members: service extension when Congress is not in session.
 - (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, when the President determines that the national interest so requires, he may, if Congress is not in session, having adjourned sine die, authorize the Secretary of Defense to extend for not more than six months enlistment, appointments, periods of active duty, periods of active duty for training, periods of obligated service, or other military status, in any component of the armed forces, that expire before the thirtieth day after Congress next convenes or reconvenes.

 - (b) An extension under this section continues until the sixtieth day after Congress next convenes or reconvenes or until the expiration of the period of extension specified by the Secretary of Defense, whichever occurs earlier, unless sooner terminated by law or Executive order.

 - c. Federal statutes and pertinent regulations applicable to personnel in the Marine Corps Reserve may change without notice. Such changes may affect my status as an officer candidate or commissioned officer and obligations to serve as such.

- 3. I have read and completely understand the meaning and content of the above. No promises, either written or oral, have been made to me in connection with my application for enrollment in the PLC (LAW) 3L program except as specified above. I acknowledge receipt of a copy of this document.

Signature of Witnessing Officer

Signature of Applicant

Typed Full Name and Grade of Witness

Typed Full Name of Applicant

Date