



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

31 MAY 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Revised Instructions for Completing Question 21, Standard Form 86 (SF-86), "Questionnaire for National Security Positions"

1. Reference memorandum, Director of National Intelligence, 12 April 2013, subject: Revised Instructions for Completing Question 21, Standard Form 86, "Questionnaire for National Security Positions."
2. In the interest of encouraging victims of sexual assault to seek mental health services, the Director of National Intelligence implemented the following revised instructions to Question 21 on the SF-86: "Victims of sexual assault who have consulted with a health care professional regarding an emotional or mental health condition during this period strictly in relation to the sexual assault are instructed to answer "No" to Question 21."
3. Army leaders recognize the critical importance of mental health and support proactive management of mental health conditions, wellness and recovery. Effective immediately, instructions on responding to Question 21 (Enclosed) will be provided to all individuals with a security clearance and to those who are in the process of preparing their SF-86.
4. The Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-2 is my lead for this effort. Points of contact are Ms. Andrea Upperman, (703) 695-3053, andrea.upperman.civ@mail.mil or Ms. Patricia Stokes, (703) 695-2360, patricia.p.stokes.civ@mail.mil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. McHugh".

John M. McHugh

Encl

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**REVISED INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING QUESTION 21
OF STANDARD FORM 86, "QUESTIONNAIRE FOR
NATIONAL SECURITY POSITIONS"**

EFFECTIVE 4 APRIL 2013

QUESTION 21 OF THE STANDARD FORM 86 (SF 86) "QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY POSITIONS" ASKS ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT. IN THE INTEREST OF ENCOURAGING VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT TO SEEK THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES THEY MAY NEED, REVISED INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED. THE REVISED QUESTION 21 INSTRUCTION IS AS FOLLOWS:

"PLEASE RESPOND TO THIS QUESTION WITH THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTION: VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT WHO HAVE CONSULTED WITH A HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL REGARDING AN EMOTIONAL OR MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION DURING THIS PERIOD STRICTLY IN RELATION TO THE SEXUAL ASSAULT ARE INSTRUCTED TO ANSWER NO."

OTHER THAN AS AUTHORIZED BY THIS REVISED INSTRUCTION, ALL INDIVIDUALS COMPLETING THE SF 86 SHOULD CONTINUE TO ANSWER QUESTION 21 USING THE EXISTING EXEMPTIONS FOUND UNDER THAT QUESTION WHEN IT APPLIES TO THEM.