

(t) Paragraph 90.a. is amended to read as follows:

“a. Text of statute.

Any commissioned officer, cadet, or midshipman who is convicted of conduct unbecoming an officer shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.”

(u) Paragraph 90.b. is amended to read as follows:

“b. Elements.

(1) That the accused was a commissioned officer, cadet, or midshipman;

(2) That the accused did or omitted to do certain acts; and

(3) That, under the circumstances, these acts or omissions constituted conduct

unbecoming an officer.”

(v) Paragraph 90.c. is amended to read as follows:

“c. Explanation.

(1) *Officership generally.* As used in the phrase “conduct unbecoming an officer” in this article, “officer” refers to a “commissioned officer, cadet, or midshipman.”

(2) *Nature of the offense.* The focus of this article is conduct that is likely to seriously compromise the accused’s standing as an officer. A military officer holds a particular position of responsibility in the armed forces, and one critically important responsibility of a military officer is to inspire the trust and respect of the personnel who must obey the officer’s orders. Conduct violative of this article is action or behavior in an official capacity that, in dishonoring or disgracing the person as an officer, seriously compromises the officer’s character, or action or behavior in an unofficial or private capacity that, in dishonoring or disgracing the officer personally, seriously compromises the person’s standing as an officer. This article includes misconduct that approximates, but may not meet every element of, another enumerated offense.

An officer's conduct need not violate other provisions of the UCMJ or be otherwise criminal to violate Article 133. The gravamen of the offense is that the officer's conduct disgraces the officer personally or brings dishonor to the military profession in a manner that affects the officer's fitness to command the obedience of the officer's subordinates so as to effectively complete the military mission. The absence of a "custom of the service," statute, regulation, or order expressly prohibiting certain conduct is not dispositive of whether the officer was on sufficient notice that such conduct was unbecoming.

(3) *Examples of offenses.* Instances of violation of this article include knowingly making a false official statement; dishonorable failure to pay a debt; cheating on an exam; opening and reading a letter of another without authority; using insulting or defamatory language to another officer in that officer's presence or about that officer to other military persons; being drunk and disorderly in a public place; committing or attempting to commit a crime involving moral turpitude; and failing without good cause to support the officer's family.

(4) *Relation to Other Punitive Articles:* This article includes acts made punishable by any other article, provided these acts amount to conduct unbecoming an officer. Thus, a commissioned officer who steals property violates both this article and Article 121. Whenever the offense charged is the same as a specific offense set forth in this Manual, the elements of proof are the same as those set forth in the paragraph that treats that specific offense, with the additional requirement that the act or omission constitutes conduct unbecoming an officer."

(w) Paragraph 91.c.(4)(a)(1)(iii) is as amended to read as follows:

(iii) The Federal Assimilative Crimes Act (18 U.S.C. § 13) is an adoption by Congress of state criminal laws for areas of exclusive or concurrent federal jurisdiction, provided federal criminal law, including the UCMJ, has not defined an applicable