



# NAPALSA

THE NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LAW STUDENT ASSOCIATION



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For questions, comments, or suggestions for the NAPALSA newsletter, please contact Ali Hokusui at [president.napalsa@gmail.com](mailto:president.napalsa@gmail.com).

## What is NAPALSA?

NAPALSA was established in 1981. We are a completely student-led organization. Our Board of Directors consists of 12 diverse and dedicated law students across the country.

NAPALSA was created to support, to advocate for, and to provide a voice for Asian Pacific Americans in the legal community. We provide extensive networking opportunities for our law students to observe and learn from practicing attorneys and judges. We also jointly hold a national conference each November in conjunction with the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) Convention.

**This Month's Focus: The U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps**

# THE U.S. AIR FORCE

## JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS

Our more than 1200 active duty military attorneys, called judge advocates, have discovered that service as a commissioned officer within The Judge Advocate General's Corps has much to offer. Our legal practice is challenging and offers early opportunities to litigate in a variety of forums. In addition, joining The Judge Advocate General's Corps allows an attorney to engage in public service within an institution highly respected by the American public. We firmly believe that our judge advocates make a valuable and lasting contribution to their country.

The selection board utilizes the whole person concept. Factors include academic performance, curricular and extracurricular activities, community service, work experience, letters of recommendation, leadership opportunities, height and weight, and current or prior military experience, if applicable. Prior military experience is not a requirement, nearly 85% of our current JAGs have no prior military experience. Your motivation to become a U.S. Air Force JAG is important as well as your ability and potential to be a leader in the USAF. Essentially, the selection board looks at your entire package.

The Air Force provides an ideal opportunity to experience a diversified legal practice (criminal, environmental, government contracts, labor, medical, international, legal assistance, etc.) with a complementary opportunity to hone your litigation skills. In addition to the diversity of legal practice areas, we offer the exciting opportunity to work with people (colleagues and clients) from diverse backgrounds. For some, travel opportunities, the possibility of living and practicing law in a foreign country, and the simple prospect of engaging in a unique field of law carry a special attraction. For others, quality of life is of significant importance and military service provides an extended family, emphasizes teamwork and team building, and offers a well-developed support network. JAGs start their careers in the court room prosecuting cases, providing legal assistance to military members, and rotating through various areas of the law. For these and many other reasons, service as an Air Force judge advocate offers unique opportunities and promises enriching experiences.

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# THE U.S. AIR FORCE

## JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS

### (CONTINUED)

The minimum requirements to be an Air Force JAG are: (1) that you be 34 years of age or younger; (2) a U.S. citizen; (3) a graduate of an ABA accredited law school; (4) admitted to the highest court of any state or U.S. territory; (5) and pass the medial examination after selection. The Judge Advocate General has the ability to waive up to 3 years for the age requirement (be 37 years of age or less). Waivers are handled, if necessary, after selection. If you have served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. military, your service is credited toward your age on a one-for-one yearly basis for active duty service.

You may apply to become an Air Force JAG through the Direct Appointment Program (DAP). You are eligible to apply to this program any time after you complete two-thirds of the credit hours that are required for your J.D. Boards are held three times a year (October, December, and April). The deadline for each is the 10th day of the month prior to the board meeting to submit your materials online (10 September, 10 November, and 10 March). After you submit your application online you must have an in person interview with a Staff Judge Advocate at one of our bases before the first day of the month that the board takes place (1 October, 1 December, and 1 April). We encourage you to apply online as early as possible. The website and online application program covers this program in great detail.

The SJA interview location list on our website also serves as a list of the various possible locations for your initial practice. If you are selected, we try to match your preferences as listed on your preference sheet. If the choices available do not meet your needs, you can simply decline our offer and do not have to enter active duty. There are many bases, so we believe there is a good chance at least one of your choices will be to your liking. Once you agree to your assignment and sign the oath of office, you'll be ready to enter active duty. The important bottom line is that by applying you are not obligated at all -- you only incur a military service obligation after you agree on your first assignment.

The USAF Judge Advocate General's Corps currently has a Student Loan Repayment Program (JA-SLRP). Under this program, eligible JAGs can apply for up to \$65,000 towards student loan repayment. Payments are made directly to a qualified lender over a three year period, starting

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Visit [www.airforce.com/jag](http://www.airforce.com/jag) for more information

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## DIRECT APPOINTMENT PROGRAM (DAP)

You may apply for a direct appointment as a JAG if you have completed your second year of law school or have completed two-thirds of your degree requirements.

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### Eligibility

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- **Citizen of the United States of America;**
- **Graduate from an ABA approved law school;**
- **Admitted to practice law in the highest court of any U.S. state, commonwealth, territory, or District of Columbia;**
- **Commission as an officer before the age of 35; and**
- **Complete and pass an Air Force medical examination after selection**

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### Important Dates and Deadlines

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#### **Deadline for Online Application**

**October DAP:** September 10, 2017 at 11:00 p.m. CDT

**December DAP:** November 10, 2017

**April DAP:** March 10, 2017

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Visit [www.facebook.com/USAFJAG](http://www.facebook.com/USAFJAG) for more information

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## RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS

The Graduate Law Program (GLP) is designed for first year law students to participate in the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) for two years while in law school. The One-Year College Program (OYCP) is designed for second year law students to participate in AFROTC for one year while in law school. The Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG Corps) does not award any scholarships for participation in GLP/OYCP. However, students successfully completing GLP/OYCP are guaranteed a position in the JAG Corps once they meet all the JAG Corps' licensing requirements.

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### Eligibility

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- **Attending an ABA-approved law school that either offers an AFROTC program or allows you to take AFROTC courses at a nearby school via a cross-town agreement;**
- **Be in good academic standing;**
- **Commission as an officer before the age of 35; and**
- **Meet ROTC entry standards, such as U.S. citizenship, and ROTC weight and medical standards**

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### Important Dates and Deadlines

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#### **Deadline for Online Application**

**Upload AFROTC Detachment Memo:** January 10, 2017

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Email [airforcejagrecruiting@gmail.com](mailto:airforcejagrecruiting@gmail.com) for more information

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CAPTAIN JUSTINA O. HOOPER  
CHIEF, RECRUITING BRANCH  
THE JUDGE ADVOCATE  
GENERAL'S CORPS



Captain Justina “Tia” Hooper currently serves as Chief, Recruiting Branch, Professional Development Directorate (HQ USAF/JAX), Office of The Judge Advocate General, Pentagon. In this capacity she is responsible for managing the outreach and recruiting efforts for The Judge Advocate General’s Corps.

Captain Hooper is a native of Central California and graduated from Pepperdine University in 2007. In 2010, Capt Hooper received her law degree from Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles, California. While in law school, she was a member of the Southwestern Journal of International Law and she clerked for the Honorable Federal Court Judge Terry Hatter, United States District Court for the Central District of California.

Captain Hooper received a direct commission and entered active duty in March 2011. From January 2013 to January 2014, she deployed to HQ USFOR-A in Kabul, Afghanistan. She is admitted to practice law before the Supreme Court of California, the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces and the Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals.

Captain Hooper is a graduate of Southwestern Law School and received her Bachelor of Arts degree at Pepperdine University.

If you have any questions regarding JAG, DAP, GLP, AFROTC, or OYCP, please contact Captain Hooper at [airforcejagrecruiting@gmail.com](mailto:airforcejagrecruiting@gmail.com) or call 1-800-JAG-USAF.

# REMINDERS

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## Dates • Deadlines

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2017 NAPABA Convention:  
November 2-5, 2017  
Washington D.C.

Registration open!

iL Convention Scholarship Application  
Due September 29, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.  
EDT!

2017 NAPABA Convention  
Scholarship Application

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Discounted registration fees,  
networking opportunities, job postings,  
quarterly newsletter, etc.

\$25 for Law Students  
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### WEBSITE

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Visit our website, [www.napalsa.com](http://www.napalsa.com)

### LINKEDIN

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Join our LinkedIn, [National Asian Pacific American Law Student Association.](#)