The Army's Commitment to Ethical Conduct

We are all privileged to serve our Nation, and with that privilege, we are entrusted by the American people to be ethical, honorable, and vigilant in everything we do, every day, everywhere, in every situation, without hesitation. We all swore a solemn oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States, and with that oath, we committed to live by our core values, grounded in duty and honor. The decisions we make each day reaffirm our personal commitment to follow the highest standards of ethical conduct. Our relentless commitment to exemplary ethics, servant leadership, and self-discipline is what sets us apart and inspires our teammates and our allies and partners around the globe.

Our steadfast commitment to ethical conduct includes upholding the Department’s longstanding tradition of apolitical execution of our official responsibilities. As we defend our Nation’s democratic principles, we must understand all restrictions on how we may appropriately participate in political activities. As our Nation approaches the election cycle, we must avoid any conduct and communications that could imply the Army’s endorsement or opposition of a political party, political candidate, or political campaign.

To further our unwavering commitment to ethical conduct, Army leaders are directed to personally lead scenario-based ethics training for their organizations. In addition to your annual ethics training, we expect leaders to encourage regular discussions to reinforce values-based decision making.

We are proud to serve alongside you. Lead by example. Never waiver when faced with the ethical right over the moral wrong. Relentlessly pursue the ethical high ground. Winning Matters, and we win by doing the right thing, the right way when we commit to honorable, ethical conduct in everything we do. This is what we do in my squad. This is what our Nation expects and deserves.

Michael A. Grinston
Sergeant Major of the Army

James C. McConville
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

Ryan D. McCarthy
Secretary of the Army