

Press Release 12/14/10: Profession of Arms Campaign set to begin on January 1st!

On October 27, 2010, the SECARMY and CSA signed a Terms of Reference tasking TRADOC to conduct a Review of the Profession in an Era of Persistent Conflict during CY2011. TRADOC Commander, GEN Martin Dempsey, will kick off this Profession of Arms Campaign on New Years Day! According to General Dempsey, "As an Army in transition, it's appropriate that we examine ourselves as a profession-the Profession of Arms-and ensure that we understand and are living up to the principles that define us as a profession." The Review will answer three critical questions:

- a. What does it mean for the Army to be a Profession of Arms?
- b. What does it mean to be a Professional Soldier?
- c. After nine years of war, how are we as individual professionals and as a profession meeting these aspirations?

Results of this Campaign will stimulate an Army-wide dialogue that will ultimately review and revise relevant Army DOTMLPF systems, processes and policies to reinforce the Profession of Arms into the future.

GEN Dempsey approved the release of an Army White Paper, a pamphlet, and a video on the Profession of Arms which will establish the framework and common language needed to begin this dialog among members of the Profession of Arms, both as individuals and as a revered and effective military institution.

There are five key attributes that will be used for initial debate and dialog in this review: expertise/skill, trust, development/leadership, values/character and service/duty. This campaign will assess each of these five attributes at each of the individual (commissioned officer, warrant officer, noncommissioned officer, Soldier and civilian), unit, and institutional levels.

A community of practice comprised of experts in the Profession of Arms will oversee this review for the Army. This team will look at archived research and our history as a profession, develop surveys, and provide a venue for focus groups and forums at all levels of the Army to ensure opportunities for discussion are broad and varied. Surveys will consist of both free response (forums/blogs) and more traditional multiple choice questionnaires. Surveys will be accessed online at the Center for the Army Profession and Ethic (CAPE) websites: <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/611545> or <http://cape.army.mj>. Additionally, the Army Research Institute will assist in the distribution of surveys to representative samples across the Total Army. In June 2011, an Interim Report will be given to the SECARMY and CSA on the initial feedback received. A Final Report will be provided in December 2011 that outlines the findings and recommendations for DOTMLPF and policy changes to reinforce the Profession of Arms.

Feedback from the field is critical for the success of this Campaign. Every member of our Profession of Arms should look to participate in a study, forum, professional development session so the Community of Practice Team Members can fully appreciate where we are as a Profession and be able to take appropriate recourse in order to guarantee a successful future. Please visit the CAPE website so you can get involved!