

LIZ

My Command Sergeants Major Ethical Issue

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Ethics Paper

Ethics, as defined by Webster is “the system or code of morals of a particular person, religion, group, or profession”.

Every person in the world has his or her own norms, values and beliefs that effect their ethical decision making process. We as Sergeant Major have to understand that we have to be fair and impartial to every soldier and treat them equally and fare. A good leader will always use the Army Values and Ethos to help aid in making any decisions. Were leaders find themselves in a ethical dilemma is when they have done something in the past that that is embarrassing and a soldier may have knowledge of this event and have the leader in a compromising position. The other reason is because the leader has developed a great friendship with a soldier and this friendship gets in the way and clouds his or her judgment.

I recently encountered a situation at my last unit. My Sergeant Major a man that I have an enormous amount of respect. Was put into an ethical dilemma by one of my fellow peers (1SGT). I was on orders to attend the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy. I hand the hold chain of command new that I was to attend in August 2004 of the same year. I found myself in a situation. The battalion had just returned from war the Command Sergeant Major and the rest of the 1SG’s had a unique relationship. I understood this because of all that they had been through they had developed a special bond. The CSM was retiring after twenty-six years of faithful service. His 1SG’s had

served him well and I was the new 1SG on the block, not to mention those that were in the zone for consideration to attend USASMA were not selected. All of them vowed for they're on reasons that they were looking for other jobs and they wanted out of the battalion. Our CSM aided in helping them find other jobs. The ethical dilemma arose as the unit was preparing to go to The National Training Center (NTC). The dates for the deployment were from 16 May – 28 June 2004. This training would be in preparation for a future deployment back Operation Iraqi Freedom. One 1SG was on orders for Korea. The report date was 20 Aug 04. My report date to USASMA was no later than 28 July 2004. The 1SG in question did not want to go to NTC so he had his report date moved up to the end of July to prevent him from going to NTC. I had given the CSM my critical dates including out-processing, moving, and travel. The chain of had ^{NOT} yet removed me from my position.

The CSM approached me one day and said that you guys are putting me in a dilemma. I did not understand even though I knew what he was referring to. He went on to say that he did not have enough replacements to allow me, and my fellow 1SG not to attend NTC with our units. I knew then that the CSM was being pressured by my peer not to change his report date so that he could get out of going to NTC creating more time to spend with his family before he departed. Even though if the report date was moved back he would have time once he returned he did not want to go on another deployment. In this 1SG defense he had returned from Iraqi and with in a month and a half went to NTC and had been working very hard.

The CSM's friendship with this 1SG was effecting the mission requirements of the battalion. The CSM told me that if he could not take care of both of us (meaning getting us out of the deployment) we both would have to go. This was clearly not the right decision. I had a capable Sergeant first Class waiting to fill my position. I also had a Department of the Army approved school date that could not be changed unlike my peer. Clearly the CSM's felt that he was trapped and was deeply searching for away to please both and keep the friendship of this fellow 1SG. The CSM did not have the guts to make the easy (right) call. He could have easily called DA and pushed the 1SG's report date back thirty days. He did not in stead he took a Master Sergeant out of the S-3 shop and made him the 1SG of the other battery and put the SFC in my position. The Master sergeant that he made a 1Sg in the other battery had already been promised by the CSM that he could miss the deployment because he was signing for a new home. The Master Sergeant now 1SG had to deploy all because of the ethical dilemma.

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TITLE PAGE	1. Two inch margins on all sides.		
	2. All text centered.		
	3. Includes specific title, author's name, instructors' name, date.		
INTRODUCTION	4. Specific topic identified, defined, and narrowed.		
	5. Background of topic identified.		
	6. Thesis sentence included.		
	7. Introduces opposing view.		
BODY OF PAPER	8. Classified the major issues and provided a careful analysis of each in defense of the thesis.		
	9. Well-reasoned statements at the beginning of the paragraphs with evidence of support with proper documentation.		
	10. Smooth flow and adequate use of transitions		
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SUMMARY	13. Discusses and interprets the findings.		
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GRAMMAR AND WRITING ERRORS	16. Correct sentence structure.		
	17. Punctuation.		
	18. Subject/verb agreement.		
	19. No personal pronouns.		
	20. Correct spelling/usage.		
FORMAT	21. FONT: Times New Roman, 12 Pitch		
	22. Double Spaced.		
	23. Paragraphs indented.		
	24. 1 inch margins		
	25. Pages sequentially numbered.		
	26. 3 pages in length.		
SUSPENSES	27. Final essay		
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