

General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand (GOMOR)



A GOMOR is an adverse administrative action. It is a formal reprimand from a General Officer (GO). The most important decision the GO will make is where to file the GOMOR. If the GOMOR is filed locally, it stays in your unit personnel file until you PCS or for 18 months, whichever occurs first. If the GOMOR is filed permanently, it goes in your Army Military Human Resource Record (AMHRR) and will have a severe impact on your career.

The rebuttal to the GOMOR is very important. It is the Soldier's one chance to tell the GO what he or she should take into consideration when making the filing determination.

There are three approaches to the rebuttal: fight the facts, argue for leniency, or some combination of both.

Fight the facts – The language of the GOMOR will tell the Soldier exactly what the GO thinks he or she did. It is usually very hard to argue nothing happened, but if the facts are wrong, if there was no misconduct worthy of a reprimand, the rebuttal can be used to make that argument.

Argue for leniency – Sometimes there is no real defense and the misconduct happened exactly as the GOMOR says. All the Soldier is left with at that point is asking for leniency, trying to argue that, despite the misconduct, the Soldier deserves a local filing, which will allow him or her to carry on with their Army career.

Some of both – Most often the rebuttal is some combination of fighting the facts and asking for leniency. Sometimes the facts as recited in the GOMOR are incomplete or misleading. The rebuttal can put what actually happened in context and show the misconduct was not as severe as the GOMOR makes it sound, while also arguing for leniency.

The rebuttal can be strengthened by submitting letters of support. These should not be simply "character statements" that say the NCO is a good Solider. Instead, they should be from leaders who know about the misconduct and can tell the GO that despite the misconduct the NCO deserves to carry on with their career.

If you are facing a GOMOR you should follow the links below.

For a template that discusses some of the approaches you might take in drafting the rebuttal, <u>click here</u>.

For a template for statements of support, click here.