WASHINGTON NATIONAL GUARD
JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS
CAMP MURRAY, TACOMA, WA 98430-5000

NGWA-RRB-Z

10 June 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR The Data Dissemination Committee, JISC

SUBJECT: Statement of Reason in regards to current JIS Link/JABS access level for the Washington Army National Guard

1. As of 10 June 2021, the Washington Army National Guard (WAARNG) Recruiting and Retention Battalion (RRB) has 30 JABS/JIS Link users. Each of these personnel maintain a Secret or Top Secret Security Clearance as well as a POSTA Screening (Position of Significant Trust).

2. The Washington National Guard's current access level to JIS Link and JABS is crucial to our current operations and directly impacts our overall strength and readiness. Recruiters required a POSTA Screening and a detailed criminal history check. With over 100 active Recruiters in RRB, it is vital that each of these individuals are screened for prior law enforcement convictions. These employees work directly with High School age minors and have strict stipulations they must abide by. Yearly, each member voluntarily provides a DD369 (Police Record Check) to give us jurisdiction to review their current and past law violations. In order for these members to maintain their security clearance, our staff must submit a SF86 security clearance application in which they must list all prior and current law enforcement encounters. Our access to JABS and JIS Link is utilized to verify and assist these Soldiers with the correct dates and dispositions of past case history.

3. Each year, the WAARNG assists over 800 applicants in joining our forces. Every applicant that wishes to join the Service voluntarily provides a signed DD369 and a court records release form. We do not access anyone's record without their signed consent. Without our current access to JIS Link and JABS, we would be forced to go through each police department or court throughout the State and this would directly impact one's ability to join the WAARNG. This could allow applicants and Recruiters to erroneously join the Washington National Guard by omitting jurisdictions that they have committed crimes in.

4. The Washington National Guard serves the Governor of the State of Washington in support of various domestic response operations to include Law Enforcement. Being able to vet and process Service Members in a timely manner is critical to the support we are required to provide the State of Washington. Being denied access will negatively impact Recruiting and Retention efforts and ultimately hinder the ability of the Washington National Guard to respond to State emergencies in times of need.

5. I strongly recommend our access to JIS Link/JABS is maintained as it has been for over a decade. We have reviewed the "Public" access level and deemed in inadequate for our purposes.

4. POC at this headquarters is SFC Santero, DSN 323-8910, commercial (253) 512-8910 or dolan.p.santero.mil@mail.mil.

SEBASTIAN N. ANDRES
LTC, IN, USA
Commanding