

# ***US Special Operations Command***

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## **Joint System Safety Release Process**

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# SERVICE SAFETY BOARDS\*

- **Safety Boards with which USSOCOM interacts on regular basis:**
  - **Army Fuse Safety Review Board (AFSRB)**
  - **Developmental Test Command, Aberdeen Proving Grounds (DTC)**
  - **Air Force Non-Nuclear Munitions Safety Board (AFNNMB)**
  - **Navy Laser Safety Review Board (NLSRB)**
  - **U.S. Army Center for Public Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine (CHPPM)**
  - **Naval Weapons System Explosives Safety Review Board (WSESRB)**
  - **Air Force Laser Safety Review Board (AFLSRB)**
  - **Fuze Initiation System Technical Review Panel (Naval Fuse Board)**
  - **System Software Safety Technical Review Panel**

\* List reflects Boards when dealing with weapons, ammunition, and explosives.



# SYSTEM SAFETY ISSUE

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- **For USSOCOM to field joint systems involving weapons, ammunition, and/or explosives, safety certifications and/or releases must be obtained from multiple system safety boards. Differing processes, procedures, and certification criteria among these various boards can produce**
  - **Unacceptable certification delays**
  - **Duplicative testing**
  - **Conflicting determinations and interpretations of testing results, which in turn are reflected in disagreements among the respective boards regarding the corrective actions needed to receive certification and/or release**
  - **Certification impasses because no duly authorized adjudication authority exists to resolve the disagreements**



# SYSTEM SAFETY ISSUE (cont)

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- **WHAT WAS NEEDED? An overarching, streamlined DOD process that addressed joint system safety release and/or certification situations, and facilitated fielding of systems and equipment to joint SOF users.**
- **WHY IS THIS PROCESS NEEDED? Acquisition programs within USSOCOM are inherently joint programs which support and/or affect all SOF components. In the absence of such a process (or board), individual certifications and/or releases must be obtained from multiple system safety boards across the respective Services. Furthermore, other DoD Components seeking safety certifications and/or releases for joint acquisition programs under their purview are faced with similar problems.**



# USSOCOM REQUEST TO OUSD(AT&L/DS)

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- **Develop a DoD executive agent certification and release process**
  - **Assign lead board**
  - **Binding participation by Service system safety boards**
  - **Adjudication mechanism to resolve conflicting determinations and/or interpretations**
  - **Establish compressed certification process time lines (goal of 90 days from start to finish)**
- **Use USSOCOM equipment and systems to benchmark existing processes**
- **Create prototype joint process for USSOCOM efforts with goal of ultimately transitioning the process to DoD**



# OUSD(AT&L/DS) RESPONSE TO USSOCOM REQUEST

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- Under the aegis of the Defense Safety Oversight Council (DSOC), formally assigned the problem to the Acquisition and Technology Programs (ATP) Task Force (TF)
- ATP TF accepted task; worked with the Service safety boards to create an improved and streamlined certification process