

SENSITIVE:PERSONAL**HOT ISSUES BRIEF FOR CDR-AAFC****ALLEGATIONS OF POSSIBLE CODE OF CONDUCT/ POSSIBLE OFFENCE –
FLTLT (AAFC) TODD OAKLEY****BACKGROUND**

1. CO 217 SQN was made aware of an allegation that FLTLT (AAFC) Todd Oakley may have been involved in incidents which may constitute a breach of the code of conduct or offences under Queensland law. CO 217 advised OC 2 WG in a voice mail message that he had a serious matter to report. OC 2 WG returned the call and was advised of the general nature of the allegations. Further details have now been obtained by CO 217 SQN and OC 2 WG.
2. **Reason for brief.** This brief is written to provide CDR-AAFC with information on the actions taken regarding the issue since first notification.
3. **Scope of brief.** This brief will describe:
 - a. Notification of the alleged incidents,
 - b. Interview conducted following the notification,
 - c. Courses of action determined and recommended.

NOTIFICATION OF THE ALLEGED INCIDENTS**Initial Notification to CO 217 SQN**

4. **Initial Notification .** Mr Aaron Symonds, an ex Air Force cadet, spoke to CO 217 SQN at an ANZAC day function. Mr Symonds is known socially to CO 217 SQN and had been pursuing membership of the AAFC. CO 217 SQN expressed disappointment to Mr Symonds that he had not proceeded with finalising his paperwork. Mr Symonds told CO 217 SQN that he had been “freaked out” when attending 217 SQN, to see FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley there. Mr Symonds proceeded to tell CO 217 SQN “something he had never told anyone” and described, in broad terms how FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley had inappropriately touched Mr Symonds when he (Mr Symonds) was a cadet.

Initial Notification to OC 2WG

5. **OC 2WG Phone Call** CO 217 SQN left a voicemail message on OC 2WG’s mobile phone. OC 2 WG returned the call and CO 217 SQN advised OC 2 WG of the matters outlined in paragraph 4.

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SENSITIVE:PERSONAL**ACTIONS**

6. **Interview with Mr Symonds.** CO 217 SQN and OC 2 WG met with Mr Symonds on the evening of Tuesday 29 Apr 14 at the United Service Club in Brisbane. Mr Symonds said that, between 1995 AND 2001, he had been a cadet at what is now 217 SQN. Mr Symonds provided an account of three incidents. The first occurred when Mr Symonds was 16 or 17. He described FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley as being “very close, personal” with cadets. He said that FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley would touch cadets arms or their backs. He said FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley claimed to be a massage therapist. One night he enticed Mr Symonds to a hotel (Hogan’s Hotel, behind the Wellington Point Hotel). There FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley “touched him in places he was not comfortable with”. FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley had claimed it was a part of the massage. When Mr Symonds had objected, FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley apologised and told him not to tell anyone.
7. On another occasion Mr Symonds had stayed at FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley’s place the night prior to an Exercise. He stayed in the same room as FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley – a situation Mr Symonds described as normal for the time. “If you stayed at someone’s place in cadets, you often slept “head to toe”. Mr Symonds says FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley “touched him up”. When asked what he meant by this, he replied that FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley had put his hand down his pants.
8. Later on, when Mr Symonds was over 18, FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley had arranged a “get together” of ex cadets. When Mr Symonds showed up, he was the only one there which he thought was a little strange. FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley kept buying him drinks. He then “touched him up”. This happened at the Treasury Casino and Ibis Hotel.
9. Mr Symonds stated on the first occasion, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had been present. There were no people present on the second occasion.
10. Mr Symonds stated that FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley’s behaviour was different to that of other instructors towards cadets. There was no saluting and he said to cadets they should call him Todd.
11. Mr Symonds consent to advise CIVPOL and AAFC of the above matters was obtained. Mr Symonds was offered the support of the 2 WG PSYCH, provided with the contact details of OC 2 WG, and encouraged to access support services available through Defence.
12. **Actions initiated by OC 2 WG.** On the conclusion of the interview, OC 2 WG commissioned an investigation into the above allegations. He arranged with XO 2 WG that FLTLT (AAFC) Crome conduct the investigation. OC 2 WG then contacted FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley to advise that a complaint had been received that he may have engaged in unacceptable conduct with a cadet, an investigation had been commenced and that, on a without prejudice basis, his appointment as an Officer of Cadets had been suspended. FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley was offered all appropriate support, including access to the 2 WG PSYCH. OC 2 WG then contacted CDR-AAFC to advise of the matters above.

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SENSITIVE:PERSONAL**CONCLUSION**

13. **Actions.** The following actions are expected to take place in the next forty eight hours:
- a. Referral of the allegations to CIVPOL.

RECOMMENDATIONS

14. The following recommendations are presented for CDR-AAFC consideration:
- a. FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley's suspension to be regularly reviewed IAW the process mandated by CDF Directive No 22 of 2013.
 - b. 2WG PSYCH be made available for consultation with FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley and Mr Symonds;
 - c. A report be made by OC 2 WG to CIVPOL;
 - d. PACIO be involved to assist with any media contact;
 - e. Mr Symonds and FLTLT (AAFC) Oakley be offered access to all Defence support services (PSYCH, CHAPLAIN, SeMPRO).



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