

## The Marine Defense Service Organization

Since 1985, the Marine Corps has maintained an independent defense organization headed by the Chief Defense Counsel of the Marine Corps (CDC).

On 29 September 2011, the Marines published a complete revision to the Marine Corps service regulations for the provision of defense counsel services that also reorganized the Marine Corps defense counsel community into the Marine Corps Defense Services Organization (DSO) and clarified the duties, responsibilities, and authorities of supervisory defense counsel. In addition, this revision ensures compliance with appellate court decisions concerning the assignment of defense counsel and otherwise helps improve the provision of defense services overall.