

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE READINESS COMMAND 8831 John J Kingman Road FORT BELVOIR, VA 22060

AFRC-MIR-EO

20 November 2008

Memorandum for Record

Subject: Informal Equal Opportunity Complaint Regarding MIRC Sponsored Strong Bonds Training/Program

1. On 29 September 2008, [name, rank, and unit redacted], contacted the Inspector General Office to conduct inquiry into allegations that her "Constitutional Rights being violated during attendance at the MIRC Strong Bonds Singles training section in Orlando, Florida, 29 February 2008."

2. On 30 September 2008, [name redacted] complaint was forwarded to the Equal Opportunity Office to assist, since the basis of her complaint were alleged religious discrimination. Immediately, I telephoned [name redacted] and inform her of my role as the MIRC EO Specialist, and that her issue has been forward to my office to conduct inquiry, since the allegations were on the basis of religion.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- The Chaplain Office acknowledged that the Strong Bonds Program presenters have included their own personal experiences into some of their lectures and have asked members to use their own beliefs system to draw from.
- Effective 1 October 2008, additional measures has been implemented into the MIRC Strong Bonds Program to eliminate perception of a "religious base program" and ensure that presenters "Chaplains" uses the program as intended, to build military and family members healthy relationships.
- 3. Point of contact for this memorandum is the undersign at <u>carey.williams1@usar.army.mil</u> or civilian 703- 806-5905.

/s/ CAREY WILLIAMS GS11, USAR Equal Opportunity Specialist