
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2009 No. 2041

The Armed Forces (Court Martial) Rules 2009

PART 10

ARRAIGNMENT

Arraignment

56.—(1) A defendant shall be arraigned in preliminary proceedings on each charge brought against him, but need not be arraigned on every charge at the same time.

(2) A defendant shall be required to plead separately to each charge on which he is arraigned.

(3) Where a defendant pleads guilty to a charge, the judge advocate may accept the plea if satisfied that the defendant understands—

- (a) the nature of the charge;
- (b) the general effect of the plea; and
- (c) the difference in procedure following pleas of guilty and not guilty.

(4) Where the judge advocate accepts a plea of guilty to a charge—

- (a) the defendant shall stand convicted of the charge; and
- (b) unless there is a further charge against him to which he has not pleaded guilty (or as respects which a plea of guilty has not been accepted by the judge advocate), the court administration officer shall appoint a time and place for sentencing proceedings.

(5) Where—

- (a) a plea of guilty is not accepted by the judge advocate, or
- (b) the defendant does not plead (or does not plead intelligibly) to the charge,

the judge advocate shall record a plea of not guilty.