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## NEWS RELEASE

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CADET CHARGED, TWO OTHERS REFERRED TO COURTS-MARTIAL – March 1, 2017

WEST POINT, N.Y. – Charges were preferred yesterday against Ammon Tuimaunei, a member of the Class of 2017, for drug- related offenses, while two others have been referred to courts-martial proceedings.

Tuimaunei is charged with five violations of Article 112a (Wrongful Possession and Wrongful Distribution of the Controlled Substances Cocaine and Oxycodone) and two violations of Article 81 (Conspiracy with Intent to Distribute Cocaine and Oxycodone) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. He is currently an active cadet pending an Article 32 hearing.

In November six cadets were charged with similar offenses. On February 14, 2017, U.S. Military Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Robert L. Caslen, Jr., referred two of the six cadets to a general courts-martial. Christopher Monge and Tevin Long, who are on administrative leave and away from the academy, are pending arraignment in front of a military judge to face charges that they violated Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 81 (Conspiracy to Distribute controlled substances) and Article 112a (Wrongful use, Introduction and Distribution of controlled substances). The general nature of the charges involve the wrongful distribution, introduction and use of cocaine, oxycodone, oxymorphone and alprazolam. The judge has not yet determined the trial date.

The four cadets who remain on administrative leave are awaiting a decision from the superintendent on further proceedings, which could include a courts-martial or administrative action.

There are three levels of courts-martial. In accordance with Army regulation, cadets are not tried at the summary or special courts-martial levels. For offenses that warrant adjudication at a level below a general courts-martial may face a cadet misconduct investigation under Army

Regulation 210-26. Punishments for offenses under a general courts-martial can result in the maximum confinement under the UCMJ and a punitive discharge.

These cadets are presumed innocent for all charges and violations until proven guilty by a trial by courts-martial.