

Case-Ex: Duty

Splash Opening:

(Bolded text is displayed in the Army Value introduction video)

DUTY: Fulfill your obligations

Being a Soldier is more than a job—it is a profession and a lifestyle. Duty demands that we do our best- not just the minimum. It means we take responsibility for ourselves and for those around us. As Soldiers, we are never “off duty.” Duty describes our willingness to accept full responsibility for both the written and unwritten tasks that we know must be done.

Objective: **Understand the Army Value of Duty and how to live it as a Soldier. How do we, as American Soldiers, embrace Duty?**

- **Do what we are told to do**
- **Do what needs to be done**
- **Follow rules and regulations**
- **Complete the mission**
- **Make the correction**
- **Shoulder more than “our fair share” of the task**

Accomplishing the mission IS success for our military. Duty defines what we do and how we do it--- to the best of our ability. When we do our duty, we are fulfilling our obligations to the mission, to each other, and to our country.

-What does Duty mean to you personally?

-How is this different from the way you thought about Duty before you joined the Army?

Army Values Case-Ex: Duty (continued)

Case-Ex: Duty – ARMY VALUES (PFC Smith)

(Bolded questions are included in the Case-Ex video interface)

Part 1:

PFC Smith describes a challenge he faced while serving as the Trainee Platoon Leader during Basic. PFC Smith's Platoon was given a narrow window of time in the evening for everyone to call home. He worked out the math and everyone had time for a 3-minute call. Then he found out some members of the Platoon had already called home by sneaking down to the phones earlier in the day. The responsibility fell on PFC Smith to sort this out.

Recognize the ethical dilemma

1. What is PFC Smith's problem?
2. How aware was PFC Smith that was confronted with an ethical decision?

Examine options through the ethical lenses

3. What factors are influencing PFC Smith's possible choices?

4. Do you think PFC Smith wants to sort out this problem?

5. What options does PFC Smith have?
6. What possible outcomes may result from his decision?
7. What rules or regulations apply to this situation?
8. What could be considered the right action and attitude for PFC Smith?
9. How should PFC Smith evaluate his options?
10. Does PFC Smith have any resources that can guide his decision about what is "fair?"

Commit to a Decision

11. Would it be easier for PFC Smith to just ignore this situation and not take action? What might happen if he did?

12. What factors are influencing PFC Smith's decision?
13. What might be limiting PFC Smith's ability to take action or to change his perception?
14. What is the easiest course of action for PFC Smith?

Act

15. Why is it important for PFC Smith to perform his Duty to the best of his ability? For himself? For his unit?

ARMY VALUES Case-Ex: Duty (continued)

Part 2:

PFC Smith describes how he made his decision and how the Platoon reacted to it. He had further challenges because some of the Soldiers that went to the phones earlier never actually used them, and wanted their turn. PFC Smith was able to resolve the issues and execute his plan. He talks about Loyalty to his friends and Duty as the Platoon Leader.

- 1. What challenges did PFC Smith face once he briefed his plan?**
- 2. Describe how PFC Smith's performance of his Duty fostered teamwork while still adhering to the rules. In what way did he show initiative?**
- 3. What other Army Values did you recognize in PFC Smith?**
- 4. How did PFC Smith find a balance between the Army Values?**
5. What motivated PFC Smith to act as he did?
6. Why is fulfilling one's Duty in this way important as a Soldier?
7. What might the long-term effects have been if PFC Smith did nothing?
8. How might this experience change the attitudes and actions of everyone that was involved?

ARMY VALUES Case-Ex: Duty (continued)

Case-Ex: Duty – Garrison/Off Duty (SFC Schuler)

(Bolded questions are included in the Case-Ex video interface)

Part 1:

SFC Schuler describes being off duty and seeing Soldiers “downtown.” One night he and a fellow NCO observed a Soldier from their unit. The first time they saw him they said “Hi” and moved on. They saw him at the end of the night and observed that he was extremely drunk and heading toward his car.

Recognize the ethical dilemma

- 1. What do you think SFC Schuler’s Duty is in this situation?**
- 2. What excuses could SFC Schuler use to NOT take action?**
3. What is SFC Schuler’s problem?
4. What are the issues involved?
5. How aware was SFC Schuler that he had been confronted with an ethical decision?

Examine options through the ethical lenses

- 6. What are the possible short-term and long-term effects if SFC Schuler does nothing?**
- 7. What can happen in a team or unit when Soldiers do not do their Duty?**
8. What options does SFC Schuler have?
9. What rules or regulations apply to this situation?
10. What could be considered the right action and attitude?
11. How should SFC Schuler evaluate his options?

Commit to a Decision

12. What factors are influencing SFC Schuler’s decision?
13. Would it be easier just to ignore this situation and not take action?

Act

14. What is the easiest course of action for SFC Schuler?
15. Why might SFC Schuler have spent additional time in making his decision?

ARMY VALUES Case-Ex: Duty (continued)

Part 2:

SFC Schuler decides to help the Soldier by taking his keys and driving him home. He discusses how important it is to act in a situation like this. He also talks about what might have happened if he'd done nothing, and the different ways to take action in a situation like this (calling a cab versus driving the Soldier home, etc.) He shares what motivates him as a Soldier and an NCO.

- 1. What motivated SFC Schuler to perform his Duty as he did?**
- 2. Why is fulfilling your Duties—even when “off duty”—important as a Soldier?**
- 3. What other Army Values did you recognize in SFC Schuler?**
4. What motivated SFC Schuler to act as he did? What does his decision tell you about his values?
5. How might this experience change the attitudes and actions of everyone that was involved?
6. Were any of the Army Values in conflict? Which ones?

ARMY VALUES Case-Ex: Duty (continued)

Case-Ex: Duty – Combat (SFC MacDonald)

(Bolded questions are included in the Case-Ex video interface)

Part 1:

SFC MacDonald describes being a medic at Bucca Prison in Iraq—the largest detention facility in that country in 2005. He describes the hostile conditions and the violence within the perimeter. He was responsible as a medic to care both for the MPs in his unit and for the detainees. Medics gave proactive health-care even to insurgents. One day, a detainee is severely injured during a fight and his friends carry him to the fence. SFC MacDonald describes the conflict between his desire and Duty as a medic to treat the man bleeding out on the other side of the fence, and his Duty as a medic and a Soldier to not enter the perimeter until it is secure.

Recognize the ethical dilemma

1. What do you think SFC MacDonald's Duty is with regard to the detainees? To his medics?

2. What is SFC MacDonald's problem?

3. How aware was SFC MacDonald that he had been confronted with an ethical decision?

Examine options through the ethical lenses

4. What conflicts in the performance of his Duties did SFC MacDonald have?

5. With regard to the injured detainee, what are the possible outcomes if SFC MacDonald does nothing? If he goes inside the wire?

6. What options does SFC MacDonald have?

7. What rules or regulations apply to this situation?

8. What could be considered the right action and attitude?

9. How should SFC MacDonald evaluate his options?

Commit to a Decision

10. What factors are influencing SFC MacDonald's decision?

11. Would it be easier to just ignore this situation and not take action? What might happen?

12. In what ways is this situation more difficult because there is not a clear right or wrong?

Act

13. What is the easiest course of action for SFC MacDonald?

ARMY VALUES Case-Ex: Duty (continued)

Part 2:

SFC MacDonald follows his unit SOP and does not move in because the area is not secure—he would be exposing other US Soldiers to harm. He discusses watching the detainee bleed out. He followed safety first. SFC MacDonald also reflects on the responsibility as a medic to prioritize care and ensure that they also protect themselves as an asset.

- 1. What actions did SFC MacDonald take to perform his Duties?**
- 2. Why was it hard for him to resolve the conflicts he faced between his Duties in this situation? What does his decision tell you about his values?**
- 3. What could have been the effects if SFC MacDonald had tried to render aid?**
- 4. What other Army Values did you recognize in SFC MacDonald?**
5. What motivated SFC MacDonald to act as he did? What does his decision tell you about his values?
6. What could have been the long-term effects if SFC MacDonald had tried to render aid?
7. How might this experience change the attitudes and actions of everyone that was involved?
8. What conflict did you see among the Army Values?