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Karel Dubsky cleared of involvement in 'Jedi Council' sex scandal, five years after being dismissed

By defence reporter [Andrew Greene](#)

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PHOTO: [Lieutenant-Colonel Karel Dubsky](#) was removed from his command after it emerged he had been sent an offensive email. (ABC News)

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The highest-ranking soldier accused of taking part in the so-called "Jedi Council" sex scandal has been publicly cleared by the Army, more than five years after being condemned in a now famous video address.

In 2013, then-Army Chief David Morrison made global headlines when he delivered an ultimatum to soldiers involved in the distribution of hundreds of sexually explicit emails.

The Lieutenant General [ordered soldiers to "get out" of the military if they could not respect women as equals](#), and was later awarded Australian of the Year for his commitment to gender equality.

At the time, Lieutenant-Colonel Karel Dubsy was removed from his command after it emerged he had been sent an email — which he did not open — from a group of soldiers who allegedly shared offensive material about women on a defence network.

Two years later he was [medically discharged from Defence, and said the episode had "destroyed his life"](#).

"I was admitted into a psychiatric ward ... and I tried to kill myself in there," he told 7.30 in 2016.

"And I tried again when General Morrison was named Australian of the Year."

[External Link: David Morrison's speech condemning those involved in the Jedi Council scandal.](#)

Mr Dubsy was cleared by then-Defence Chief David Hurley in October 2013, but the ousted soldier did not receive a public apology.

This week, current Army Chief Lieutenant General Angus Campbell issued a signed statement that stopped short of an apology but acknowledged Mr Dubsy was not involved in the Jedi Council's activities.

"Karel Dubsy was not a member of the group that called itself the Jedi Council and did not participate in the activities of that group," Lieutenant General Campbell wrote.

"He freely assisted New South Wales Police and the Australian Defence Force Investigative Service with their investigations. Karel Dubsy cleared of any involvement in 'Jedi Council' sex scandal

"On October 20, 2013 the Chief of Defence Force, General Hurley, accepted that Mr Dubsy was not part of the activities of the Council."

In his statement General Campbell said Defence "would like to recognise Karel Dubsy's service", which included "operational tours of East Timor in 2002 and Afghanistan in 2006/07".

General Morrison declined to comment on the development when contacted by the ABC today.

The National Australia Day Council, which appointed General Morrison as Australian of the Year in 2016, has also been approached for comment.

[External Link: Defence statement of service on retired Lieutenant Colonel Karel Dubsy](#)

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