Aero Technologies begins supplying its Combat Arms earplugs to the U.S. Military. The earplugs will be standard issue to soldiers for the next 12 years.

Manufacturer 3M acquires Aero Technologies and continues supplying the 3M Combat Arms earplugs to the US military.

The U.S. Military terminates its supply contract with 3M.

Qui Tam lawsuit is filed against 3M under False Claims Act. It alleges that 3M knew its Combat Arms earplugs were defective and intentionally failed to disclose this to the US Military.

Justice Department announces that 3M has to agree to pay $9.1 million to the United States to settle the False Claims Act case.

Lawsuits get filed against 3M by service members claiming they suffered hearing damage as a result of wearing the defective Combat Arms earplugs.

Combat Arms earplug lawsuits against 3M in federal courts are consolidated into a new MDL in the Northern District of Florida.

New earplug cases continue to get filed against 3M.