



## READJUDICATING CLAIMS FOR BLUE NAVY VETERANS

### Agent Orange Exposure and VA Disability Compensation

Agent Orange was a tactical herbicide the U.S. military used to clear leaves and vegetation for military operations mainly during the Vietnam War. Veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange may have certain related illnesses.

**Blue Water Navy Veterans** who served aboard ships in the open waters off the coast of Vietnam during the Vietnam War are now presumed to be exposed to Agent Orange.

#### **Blue Water Navy - Nehmer vs. U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced it will readjudicate claims for Veterans who served in the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

This review is part of the Veterans Benefits Administration's implementation of the November 5, 2020, U.S. District Court of the Northern District of California decision to readjudicate previously denied claims as applied in *Nehmer vs. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs*.

Veterans who were previously denied service connection for an herbicide related presumptive condition due to lack of in-country Vietnam service will automatically have their claims readjudicated.

Readjudication means the VA will review the evidence of record and provide replacement decisions in the cases of Veterans who were previously denied service connection for one or more herbicide related conditions on the basis that military service was not performed on the landmass of the Republic of Vietnam or on its inland waterways. This review will also apply to eligible survivors of deceased Vietnam era Veterans. VA is dedicated to ensuring all Veterans receive the benefits they have earned.

VA ensures that we have the proper resources in place to meet the needs of the Veteran community. Eligible survivors of deceased Veterans may also benefit from the policy and may be eligible for benefits based on the Veterans' service.

Veterans who have a condition caused by herbicide exposure during military service can learn more about Agent Orange exposure at this website: <https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/>.

For more information about Agent Orange exposure in Vietnam waters (Blue Water Navy Veterans), visit <https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/navy-coast-guard-ships-vietnam/>.

**SEMPER FIDELIS  
DISCLAIMER**

Some of the information compiled for Semper Fidelis comes from other sources to include experts in their respective fields, i.e. , DFAS, VA, and TRICARE. Content was current at the time this publication went to press. Any delays in mailing may be due to unforeseen circumstances and we apologize for the inconvenience.

**NOTE: The newsletter is posted online before it is mailed.**

Semper Fidelis accepts unsolicited material for publication for regular columns such as Second Career and Reunions, but reserves the right to reject any unsolicited material deemed inappropriate or illegible for publication.

Semper Fidelis is published quarterly by MMSR-6 to inform retired Marines and their family members on information of interest on their rights, benefits, and privileges. Items in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Marine Corps or the Department of Defense.



If you, or someone you know needs help, support is available 24/7. Service members and their families can call Military OneSource at 1-800-342-9647, or chat at [militaryonesource.mil](https://militaryonesource.mil). Service members, veterans, and their loved ones can also call the Military and Veterans Crisis Line at [1-800-273-8255](https://1-800-273-8255) and Press 1, chat at [veteranscrisisline.net](https://veteranscrisisline.net), or text to [838255](https://1-800-273-8255).

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is available to anyone at [1-800-273-8255](https://1-800-273-8255).

**SEMPER FIDELIS NEWSLETTER  
FOR RETIRED MARINES**

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20350-3000

CMC-MMSR  
**APR 26 2021**

WHITE LETTER NO. 02-21

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps  
To: All Commanding Generals  
All Commanding Officers  
All Officers in Charge  
All Senior Enlisted Leaders

Subj: MARINE CORPS RETIREES

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 5420.169K

1. This White Letter supersedes and cancels White Letter 4-06. In 1996, the 31st Commandant acknowledged the importance of retired Marines and the role they play as an integral part of our Total Force. Our retired community has made, and will continue to make, tremendous contributions to our country and Corps. Retired Marines represent our Corps in civic organizations, military service organizations, community programs, and assist in our recruiting efforts. Over 700 retired Marines have voluntarily served on active duty since 9/11, with many deploying to Iraq, Afghanistan and other foreign shores.

2. The Department of the Navy Retired Activities Program (RAP) provides a connecting file to retired Marines and their families. Four critical elements of the RAP are: the Navy and Marine Corps Retiree Council, with national geographic representation; Retiree Seminars/Retiree Appreciation Days at most bases and stations; Retired Activities Offices (RAOs)/Retired Liaison Officers (RLOs); and the Semper Fidelis and Shift Colors newsletters for retired Marines and Sailors, respectively.

3. RAOs/RLOs provide a particularly important link to retirees living in proximity to our bases and stations. RAOs are staffed, in most cases, by volunteer retirees and MCCS employees who render assistance and guidance in accessing important programs, benefits and entitlements.

4. I charge our installation commanders to review your retiree program and, if warranted, breathe new life into it. If external support is needed, the Retired Services and Pay Section in the Separation and Retirement Branch at HQMC (MMSR-6) are the subject matter experts and stand ready to assist with any retired issue.

  
David H. Berger



# NEWS NEWS NEWS

## **New, Helpful DFAS Status Notifications Start this Year**

DFAS Cleveland - DFAS is excited to announce one of the latest improvements for retirees and their SBP annuitants. Over the coming year, DFAS is rolling out the use of status notifications to keep you in the loop as forms or documents you submit move through the retired pay or annuitant pay processing cycles.

### **How Do Status Notifications Work?**

Status notifications are a three-step process that will update you when DFAS receives forms or documents for processing from you by mail or fax (or in some specific cases, through AskDFAS). You will receive separate status notifications when your form or document is:

1. Received and queued in the DFAS work system
2. Assigned to be worked
3. Completed - Either a notification the processing is complete or a notification that DFAS is sending you a request for additional information.

### **What is the Benefit of a Status Notification?**

The implementation of these status notifications will give you peace of mind that DFAS received your form or request. Status notifications will also provide you with the timeframe when DFAS completed your request or notify you if additional information is required. If DFAS does need additional information, you will know to watch for mail from DFAS, with specific information about what DFAS needs to complete your request.

## **What You Need to Do to Receive Status Notifications from DFAS**

To be eligible to receive these status notifications, please ensure your email address is available and updated in myPay. You will receive the notification via SmartDoc email, so you must have a valid email address in myPay. To add or ensure your email address is up-to-date, please visit <https://mypay.dfas.mil/>.

### **When Will Status Notifications Begin?**

The first rollout of status notifications involved submissions related to the Survivor Benefit Plan, including the DD Form 2656-6 for SBP changes and the DD Form 2656-7 SBP annuity startup form as well as School Certifications, the Direct Deposit Form-SF 1199, and change of address requests. These were followed by requests related to federal tax changes (for retirees or annuitants), state tax changes (for retirees) and the designation of beneficiary for Arrears of Pay (AOP). Status notifications for additional categories of requests will be added throughout the coming year.

Watch for more information on status notifications and other improvements from DFAS in upcoming issues of *Semper Fidelis* and on the DFAS Retired & Annuitant Pay website: <https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary>.



WASHINGTON – 27 April 2021-Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas announced the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is extending the REAL ID full enforcement date by 19 months, from October 1, 2021 to May 3, 2023, due to circumstances resulting from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has significantly impacted states' ability to issue REAL ID-compliant driver's licenses and identification cards, with many driver's licensing agencies still operating at limited capacity. DHS will publish an interim final rule in the coming days to effectuate this enforcement date change.

“Protecting the health, safety, and security of our communities is our top priority,” said Secretary Mayorkas. “As our country continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, extending the REAL ID full enforcement deadline will give states needed time to reopen their driver's licensing operations and ensure their residents can obtain a REAL ID-compliant license or identification card.”

Beginning May 3, 2023, every air traveler 18 years of age and older will need a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or identification card, state-issued enhanced driver's license, or another TSA-acceptable form of identification at airport security checkpoints for domestic air travel.

All 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and four of five U.S. territories covered by the REAL ID Act and related regulations are now compliant with REAL ID security standards and are issuing REAL ID compliant driver's licenses and identification cards. However, many state licensing agencies have extended the deadline for renewing expiring licenses due to a widespread shift to appointment-only scheduling protocols during the pandemic that has significantly limited states' capacity to issue REAL ID-compliant driver's licenses and identification cards. As a result, only 43 percent of all state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards are currently REAL ID-compliant. DHS and various states also need time to implement requirements mandated by the REAL ID Modernization Act, including changes that will streamline processing by allowing the electronic submission of certain documents. DHS continues to work closely with all U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories to implement REAL ID Act requirements. For more information on REAL ID visit [www.dhs.gov/real-id](http://www.dhs.gov/real-id).



## Next Generation Uniformed Services ID Card

The Department of Defense is transitioning from its current paper-based Uniformed Services Identification (USID) card to a more secure, next generation USID card. The Next Generation USID card will incorporate an updated design and security features to deter counterfeiting and fraud, and will be printed on a plastic cardstock. Initial issuance of the Next Generation USID card began on July 31, 2020 at select DoD ID card facilities. USID

cards are issued to retired and reserve members, dependent family members of Uniformed Services members, and other eligible individuals in accordance with DoD policy to facilitate access to benefits, privileges, and DoD bases. The Next Generation USID card does not change the populations who are eligible to receive the current card.

Currently-issued USID cards remain valid through their expiration date. In an effort to limit the impact on ID card issuance facilities, cards will not be reissued solely for the purpose of obtaining the Next Generation USID card. Since sites are currently operating under constrained conditions as a result of COVID-19 to keep both cardholders and operators safe, individuals with an indefinite (INDEF) expiration date on their current USID card should wait until summer 2021 to have their Next Generation USID card issued.

The complete transition to the new ID card is targeted for January 2026. Contact your nearest ID card facility or use ID Card Office Online , a site locator and appointment scheduler, at the link below:

<https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>.



## May 1: Expanded Exchange Privileges Authorized for DoD Civilians

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Following the release of a recent Department of Defense (DoD) directive, the Navy Exchange (NEX) and Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) will open their doors to active DoD civilians in the United States, U.S. territories and possessions on May 1, 2021. The expansion to new authorized shoppers is expected to increase the contribution to quality of life programs and greatly benefit the entire military community. In order to shop at a NEX or MCX on May 1, a customer will simply need to present a valid civilian Common Access Card (CAC) at the point of sale or at the door, where applicable. A DoD or Coast Guard civilian employee who has not been issued a CAC may shop at the military resale activity on the installation where they are employed by presenting an official proof of employment document dated within 12 months, and a valid government photo identification card.

The DoD directive, dated April 12, extends in-store shopping access to active DoD and Coast Guard civilian employees at all military resale activities. Additionally, the directive grants military exchange online access to active and retired DoD and Coast Guard civilian employees by mid-October 2021. In September 2020, NEX and MCX transitioned to a unified online e-commerce portal for their joint patrons.

“The mission of the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) is as true today as it was when we were first established in 1946, to provide quality goods and services at a savings and to support Navy quality of life programs,” said retired Rear Adm. Robert J. Bianchi, CEO, NEXCOM. “This new authorized shopper expansion will help strengthen the support given to Morale, Welfare, and Recreation, directly benefitting the fleet and family in sustaining a ready and resilient force.”

“Our civilian Marines are an integral part of our ability to support mission and keep our Marines and families fueled, prepped and supplied. This has never been demonstrated better than during the pandemic. The expansion of this benefit affords us the ability to also keep our civilian Marine support fueled, prepped and supplied as they work and interact daily on our bases and stations,” said Cindy Whitman Lacy, CEO of the Marine Corps’ Business and Support Services Division. “Enabling readiness is at the core of what we do. This new authorized shopper expansion to these civil servants who directly support services mission every day will also allow us to generate more dividends to support Marines, Sailors and Families.”

For those DoD or Coast Guard civilian employees who have not been issued a CAC, they may shop at military resale activity on the installation where they are employed with a valid government identification and official proof of employment document dated within the year. Acceptable proof of employment documents include Letter of Employment, SF-50, Personnel Action Report (Commander Navy Installations Command NAF), DA3434 (Army NAF), AF2454 (Air Force NAF), NAF-MCCS 500 (Marine Corps NAF), NX-129 (Navy Exchange Service Command NAF), or Exchange Form 1200-100 (Army and Air Force Exchange Service NAF). All of the new authorized civilian shoppers are restricted from purchasing alcohol offered in the package store, tobacco, and uniform items.

The new directive allows DoD and Coast Guard civilian employees in the United States and locally hired in the U.S. territories and possessions to shop in military exchange stores. While access for locally-hired DoD civilian employees in foreign countries is still limited by host nation laws and international agreements, those DoD civilian employees will be authorized to shop at military exchanges in the United States and the U.S. territories and possessions when they are traveling.

Online exchange access is expected to be available by mid-October for active and retired DoD and Coast Guard civilian employees with a U.S. mailing address, including territories and possessions and APO and FPO addresses. The online exchanges cannot ship to local addresses in foreign countries. Online access to the NEX and MCX availability dates will be posted on [MyNavyExchange.com](https://www.mynavyexchange.com) once online verification of eligibility is enabled.



## Eligible for TRICARE For Life? What This Means for Your Family's Coverage

By TRICARE Communications

May 27, 2021

Will you be turning age 65 this year? You're on your way to an important milestone in your life. You're also a step closer to becoming eligible for Medicare and [TRICARE For Life](#) (TFL). Once you have [Medicare Part A and Part B](#), you'll automatically have TFL. Of course, if you have family members—like a younger spouse or children - enrolled in a TRICARE plan, you may be wondering if your TFL eligibility may impact their coverage.

“One of the key things to know about TFL is that it's an individual entitlement,” said Anne Breslin, TRICARE For Life program manager at the Defense Health Agency. “This means coverage is only for the beneficiary who is eligible for Medicare and TRICARE. Therefore, family members who aren't eligible for Medicare remain eligible for TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select.”

Here's a look at what you need to know about TFL and what happens to your family's TRICARE coverage once you become eligible for TFL benefits.

### Who qualifies for TFL?

First, it's important to understand how TFL works with Medicare and who's eligible for it. TFL is Medicare-wraparound coverage. This means that Medicare pays first for health care services covered by both Medicare and TRICARE. TFL then pays the remaining amount. When you get care that's covered only by TFL (for example, TRICARE covered services received overseas), TRICARE processes your claim as the primary payer.

To be eligible for TFL, your Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, or DEERS, record must reflect your eligibility for TRICARE and your entitlement to Medicare Part A and Part B. You may be eligible for Medicare if you're:

- Age 65 or older
- Under age 65 with certain disabilities  
(If you have Medicare due to a disability, you can continue your TRICARE Prime enrollment [if you qualify]. If you do, your Prime enrollment fees are waived. You can also get a refund for any Prime enrollment fees that you paid. Check with your regional contractor for details.)
- Any age with end-stage renal disease or,
  - Lou Gehrig's disease or,
  - Mesothelioma.



You'll need to sign up for Medicare a few months before the month you turn age 65. As stated in the [TRICARE and Medicare Turning Age 65 Brochure](#), “Your birth date determines when you become entitled to Medicare and when you should sign up for Medicare Part A and Part B.”

Does your birthday fall on the first day of the month? If so, you become eligible for Medicare on the first day of the month before you turn age 65. You should sign up for Medicare between two and four months before you turn age 65.

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

If your birthday falls after the first day of the month, you become eligible for Medicare on the first day of the month you turn age 65. Sign up for Medicare between one and three months before the month you turn age 65.

### **Now, what happens to my family's coverage once I have TFL?**

Nothing. The good news is your family's existing TRICARE coverage doesn't change. Your spouse can remain in his or her TRICARE plan. And if you have children, they remain in their current plan until they change plans or lose TRICARE eligibility.

Medicare and TFL are individual entitlements. However, becoming eligible for Medicare is one of many TRICARE Qualifying Life Events (QLEs) that apply to your family members. A QLE opens a 90-day period for you and your family to make eligible enrollment changes outside of TRICARE Open Season. For example, if your spouse wanted to switch from TRICARE Prime to TRICARE Select, this is the time to do so. You can learn more about QLEs in the TRICARE Qualifying Life Events Fact Sheet.

Keep in mind, there aren't any enrollment forms or fees for TFL coverage. But you must pay Medicare Part B premiums to remain eligible for TFL. If you and your spouse had enrollment fees for your TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select coverage, your spouse's enrollment fee will be reduced when you have TFL.

"Your spouse's enrollment fee changes from the family rate to the individual rate once you have TFL," said Breslin. "However, if you and your spouse have one or more children who are also enrolled in a TRICARE plan, the enrollment fee stays at the family rate."

When retired service members and their families become eligible for TRICARE For Life, typically at age 65, they are no longer able to enroll in TRICARE Prime.

Do you have questions about enrollment fees? You can check out the TRICARE Compare Cost Tool or contact your TRICARE contractor to learn more.

As you or a family member becomes eligible for Medicare and TFL, it's important you know how TFL works. The *TRICARE For Life Handbook*, *TRICARE and Medicare Turning Age 65 Brochure*, and *TRICARE and Medicare Under Age 65 Brochure* are useful resources to help you learn more about eligibility, costs, what's covered, and more.

Publications are available online at: <https://www.tricare.mil/Publications>

### **Is TRICARE For Life Right for You?**

TRICARE For Life is the plan for you if:

- You're eligible for TRICARE
- You have both Medicare Part A and B

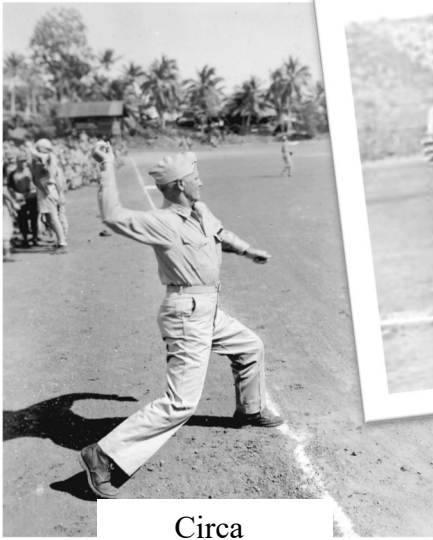
Coverage is available worldwide and you can see any provider you want. However, you'll pay more if you get care from Veteran's Administration providers or providers who opt-out of Medicare, because they're not allowed to bill Medicare.







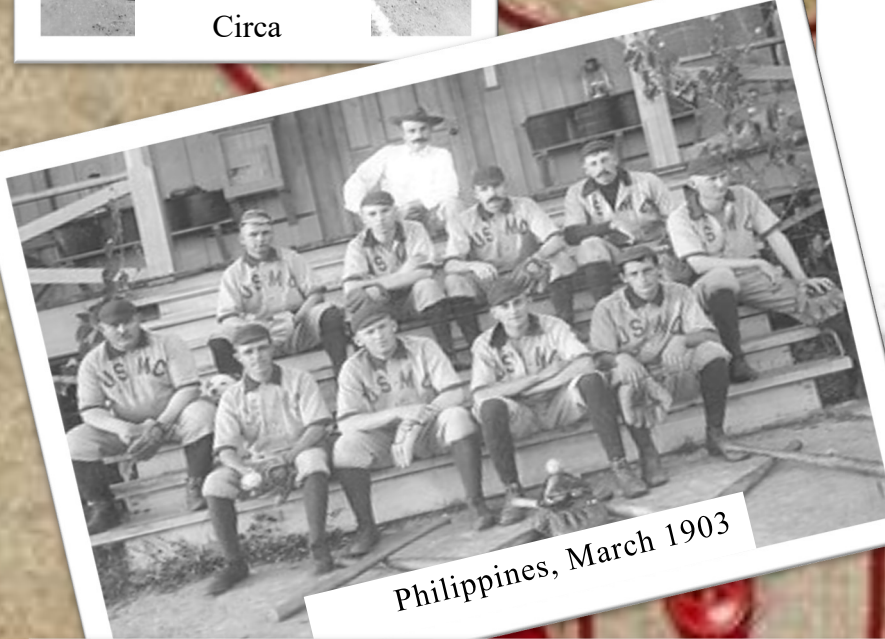
# OFFICIAL USMC BASEBALL PHOTOS



Circa



Managua, Nicaragua, Circa 1915



Philippines, March 1903



Camp Pendleton, July 1951



March 1943, Office of War Information Photo by Roger Smith

## The 2021 Marine Barracks Washington Parade Season is here!

The Evening Parade at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., starts at 8:45 p.m. Gates are open from 7 to 8 p.m. The ceremony, held every Friday evening during the summer, has become a universal symbol of the professionalism, discipline, and Esprit de Corps of the United States Marines.

Parade reservations for the evening parade are under a limited capacity restriction. Due to updated guidance from the DoD and CDC, masks are no longer required for guests who have been fully vaccinated. Marine Barracks Washington requires individuals who are not fully vaccinated (2 weeks following the final dose) to wear a mask and maintain 6 ft. distance from personnel that are not from the same domicile family. Persons displaying any of the following symptoms are asked to not attend the parade: nausea, fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, diarrhea.



May 21, 2021 - Captain Ryan Davis, protocol officer, left, and Colonel Teague A. Pastel, right, render a salute during the Friday Evening Parade at Marine Barracks Washington.

The guest of honor for the evening was Her Excellency Karen E. Pierce, DCMG British Ambassador to the United States, and the hosting official for the evening was Lieutenant General Lewis A. Craparotta, commanding general, Training and Education Command. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Jason Kolela)

FRIDAY EVENING PARADE SCHEDULE (Reservations required at the Marine Barracks.)			
July		August	
July 2	8:45 P.M. EST	Aug 6	8:45 P.M. EST
July 9	8:45 P.M. EST	Aug 13	8:45 P.M. EST
July 16	8:45 P.M. EST	Aug 20	8:45 P.M. EST
July 23	8:45 P.M. EST	Aug 27	8:45 P.M. EST
July 30	8:45 P.M. EST		

TUESDAY SUNSET PARADE SCHEDULE (Reservations are not required at the Marine Corps War Memorial.)	
Date	Time
July 6	6:00 P.M. EST
July 13	6:00 P.M. EST
July 20	6:00 P.M. EST
July 27	6:00 P.M. EST
Aug 3	6:00 P.M. EST
Aug 10	6:00 P.M. EST

Visit <https://w.barracks.marines.mil/Parades/2021-Parade-Schedule-Reservations/> and social media for updates regarding future opening of parade capacity.



## 75th Anniversary 2021 SHOW SCHEDULE



February 26, 2021 - El Centro, CA. The U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels, diamond pilots perform the low break cross maneuver during a training flight.

(U.S. Navy photo by MCS 2nd Class Christopher Gordon)

### JUNE

19 · 20 | Niagara Falls, NY  
26 · 27 | Duluth, MN

### JULY

3 · 4 | New Century, KS  
10 | Pensacola Beach, FL  
24 · 25 | Fargo, ND  
31 | Eielson AFB, AK

### AUGUST

1 | Eielson AFB, AK  
14 · 15 | Owensboro, KY  
21 · 22 | Chicago, IL  
28 · 29 | London, Ontario, Canada

### SEPTEMBER

18 · 19 | NAS Oceana, VA

### OCTOBER

2 · 3 | Huntington Beach, CA  
9 · 10 | San Francisco, CA  
16 · 17 | Loveland, CO  
23 · 24 | Fort Worth, TX

### NOVEMBER

5 · 6 | NAS Pensacola, FL

The Blue Angels Show and Practice Schedules are subject to change without notice.

Demonstration sites are selected in support of Department of Defense objectives and in the interest of the armed services, with safety as the primary consideration. Performances greatly assist in recruiting and retention goals for the military services, enhance esprit de corps among uniformed men and women, and demonstrate the professional skills and capabilities of the naval services to the American public and U.S. allies.

The mission of the Blue Angels is to showcase the precision and professionalism of the United States Navy and Marine Corps by inspiring a culture of excellence and service to country through flight demonstrations and community outreach. Since 1946, the Blue Angels have performed for more than 500 million fans.

For more information about the Blue Angels, including the 2021 and 2022 air show schedules, visit <http://www.blueangels.navy.mil>.



# United States Environmental Protection Agency



## Regulation of Skin-Applied Repellents

Before they can be marketed, most skin-applied repellents must be registered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). EPA registration of skin-applied repellent products indicates that they have been evaluated and approved for human safety and effectiveness when applied according to instructions on the label. EPA’s evaluation includes assuring that the product does not pose risks to vulnerable populations, including children and pregnant women. You will see an EPA Registration Number on the product label (for example, 123456-1) of any EPA-registered product. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the use of products containing EPA-registered active ingredients.

### Unregistered Products

Some insect repellent products for sale in the United States do not currently require EPA registration. In the 1990s, EPA evaluated the active ingredients in these unregistered products for safety. They determined that the active ingredients posed minimal risk to human health in the percentages found in products on the market. Based on this minimal risk determination, EPA decided that products made from these ingredients should be exempt from registration. Note that products made from these ingredients have not been evaluated for effectiveness.

#### Examples of ingredients used in unregistered repellents are:

- Citronella oil
- Cedar oil
- Geranium oil
- Peppermint and peppermint oil
- Soybean oil

### Illegal Products

Be aware that there are illegal products in the market that do not qualify for the exemption, nor are they registered. Repellents that do not bear an EPA registration number have not been evaluated by EPA, and EPA cannot advise consumers about the effectiveness of these products. If you find products without an EPA registration number and want to see if they might qualify as products that don't require registration, check the minimum risk pesticide website, <https://www.epa.gov/minimum-risk-pesticides/conditions-minimum-risk-pesticides>, to see the criteria for such products. However, be aware that it is not simple to determine the status of products in many cases.

## BEWARE OF MOSQUITOS

Mosquitos are the most deadly animal in the world, responsible for around 750,000 deaths per year.

THEY CAN CARRY ILLNESSES SUCH AS:

• Zika	• Chikungunya
• Malaria	• West Nile
• Dengue Fever	• Encephalitis

**AVOID MOSQUITOES BY:**

- Dumping and turning over all yard items that hold standing water
- Wearing protective clothing
- Using insect repellent at all times

**THE CDC RECOMMENDS REPELLENTS THAT CONTAIN ONE OF THESE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS:**

• Deet	• Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (OLE)
• Picaridin	• Para-Menthane-Diol (PMD)
• IR 3535	

#### Tips for Everyone

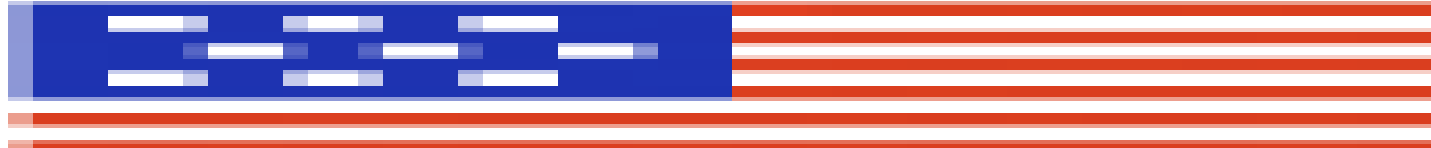
- Always follow the product label instructions.
- Reapply insect repellent as directed.
- Do not spray repellent on the skin under clothing.
- If you are also using sunscreen, apply sunscreen first and insect repellent second.
- Do not use products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or para-menthane-diol (PMD) on children under 3 years old.

**★ 2021 MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS ★**

**NOTICE: To prevent the possible spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), some events listed below may be canceled. Before traveling long distances to attend an event, please call the contact phone number for the event to ensure it will be held as scheduled.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
10 Jul	Horsham AGS, PA	215-323-7135
27 Aug	Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA	253-966-5884
11 Sep	Camp Pendleton	760-725-5704
11-12 Sep	Fort Leonard Wood, MO	573-596-0947\flwrso@mail.mil
25 Sep	Camp Lejeune, Marston Pavillion	910-451-0287
15 Oct	Fort Knox, KY	502-624-1765\7236
19 Oct	Bavaria, Germany	09641-70-526-4430\ (DSN) 526-4430

Experience camaraderie and esprit de corps at a Retiree Appreciation Day.  
 To view these events and others visit: [http://www.hostmtb.org/RADs and Other Retiree-Veterans Events.html](http://www.hostmtb.org/RADs_and_Other_Retiree-Veterans_Events.html).



# Online Security and Safety

How do you know if you are at an official website of the United States government ?

 **Official websites use .gov as their extension.**

 A **.gov** website belongs to an official government organization in the United States.

A **lock** ( ) or **https://** means you've safely connected to the **.gov** website.

Share sensitive information only on official, secure websites.

**Do you have a question?**

**Contact: USA.gov**

Ask a real person **any** government-related question for free. They'll get you the answer or let you know where to find it. They provide addresses, phone numbers, and web sites of government offices.

**Call 1-844-USAGOV1**  
**(1-844-872-4681)**

USAGov is the Official Guide to Government Information and Services



## 2021 Retired & Annuity Pay Dates



<u>Entitlement Month</u>	<u>Retiree Pay Date</u>	<u>Annuitant Pay Date</u>
June 2021	July 1, 2021	July 1, 2021
July 2021	July 30, 2021	August 2, 2021
August 2021	September 1, 2021	September 1, 2021
September 2021	October 1, 2021	October 1, 2021
October 2021	November 1, 2021	November 1, 2021
November 2021	December 1, 2021	December 1, 2021
December 2021	December 30, 2021	January 3, 2022



### GET CONNECTED TO DFAS SUPPORT

INFORMATION ON TSP SEPARATIONS CODE

The links below provide information to Marines who have separated and need support from the DFAS TSP team. These links provide a secure method to share your Personally Identifiable Information (PII) and supporting documents to get your TSP accounts updated. You will be provided a case number and receive email updates on the status of your case until completion.

Marine TSP Contribution Inquiry or Address Update  
<https://corpweb1.dfas.mil/askDFAS/ticketInput.action?subCategoryID=21044>

Marine Request for Separation Date sent to TSP  
<https://corpweb1.dfas.mil/askDFAS/ticketInput.action?subCategoryID=21045>




**ATTENTION: Changing your withholding tax via myPay**

\*\*\*\*\*

Using the myPay application (<https://mypay.dfas.mil/#/>), retirees can verify or update their IRS Form W-4 (Employee's Withholding Certificate) to ensure sufficient federal income tax is withheld from their pay.

If you need to change your federal withholding, you can do it easily in myPay. Or you can fill out and fax or mail an IRS Form W-4 if you are a military retiree, or an IRS Form W-4P if you are an SBP annuitant. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) published Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Certificate, for the 2021 tax year. Be sure to use the 2021 version when submitting changes to your federal tax withholding. The forms are available at <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw4.pdf> or at DFAS forms page <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/forms/>.

**Note:** Updating this information is not required for current military retirees. DFAS customer service representatives cannot provide tax advice or recommendations on withholding.

# USMC REUNIONS



ORGANIZATION/POC	DATE	PHONE	EMAIL/WEB
Hotel 2/7 Vietnam Veterans (1965-1970) Steve Cone	24-27 Jun 2021 Jacksonville, FL	(843) 424-8279	scone1948@yahoo.com
Marine Corps Disbursing Assoc. MGySgt Kevin Gascon USMC (Ret.)	8-12 Aug 2021 Reno, NV	(760) 458-2655	mojorisin68@hotmail.com www.usmcdisbursers.com
3rd Bn 11th Marines Assoc. "Battery Adjust XV" Brian Seals Ed Peterson	25-29 Aug 2021 Washington, DC	(765) 580-2734	bseals2013@gmail.com ed66451@aol.com Facebook: 3rd Bn 11th Marine Association
VMF-311, VMA-311 Jim Galchick	Sep 2021 New Orleans, LA	(330) 337-9383	jgalchick@neo.rr.com www.vmfvma311reunion.org
Marine Assoc. Degree Completion Program (MADCOP) Pensacola Jr. College Capt Tom Mulloy, USMC (Ret.)	18-19 Sep 2021 Pensacola, FL	(703) 550-4044	PJCMADCOP@yahoo.com
Marine Air Traffic Control Assoc. LtCol Steve Harris USMC (Ret.)	19-26 Sep 2021 San Antonio, TX	(509) 499-8137	sandkh2@gmail.com
Lima 3/1 Desert Storm Kevin Conlin	25 Sep 2021 Las Vegas, NV	(631) 627-9949	Goraiders5044@gmail.com Facebook: Lima 3/1
E Co 2/7 Vietnam Veterans MSgt William Dyer, USMC (Ret.)	26 Sep-2 Oct 2021 Colorado Springs, CO	(904) 504-1582	parthree@comcast.net
TBS Class B-2-68 Bravo Co Col Michael Cathey, USMC (Ret.)	29 Sep-2 Oct 2021 Quantico, VA	(703) 868-2198	colmcathey@gmail.com http://www.tbs2-68usmc.com
26th Marine Assoc. Annual Reunion 26'ers of all times: Iwo Jima to current (Regiment, MEU, and SupUnits) Sonny Hollub	30 Sep - 4 Oct 2021 San Diego, CA	(512) 825-4730	www.26thMarines.com sonnyusmc@gmail.com
ANGLICO Assoc. Biennial reunion: open to all eras, former, attached and present ANGLICO personnel SgtMaj Reginald Owens, USMC (Ret.)	7-10 Oct 2021 San Diego, CA	(760) 212-1520	owens.reginald33@gmail.com
TBS Class 3-72 Charlie Co 50th Reunion Col Joseph N. Mueller, USMCR (Ret.)	Oct 2021 Quantico, VA		jnm21213@yahoo.com

Note to Reunion Planners: Send your reunion events as soon as possible to our organizational mailbox (smb.manpower.mmsr6@usmc.mil) to ensure timely inclusion in this publication. We apologize for the inconvenience with any delayed or missed events due to an unforeseen change in the distribution of this publication. Visit the MCCA web site (<http://www.usmc-mcca.org/reunion/>) for information on how to organize your reunion and lists of upcoming events.

# USMC REUNIONS



ORGANIZATION/POC	DATE	PHONE	EMAIL/WEB
Marine Corps Tanker Assoc. (MCTA) 1stSgt Rick Lewis, USMC (Ret.)	14-18 Oct 2021	Washington, DC	ricklent@aol.com
TBS Class 6 -70 Fox Co 50th Col Tom Kanasky, Jr. USMCR (Ret.) Col Mitch Youngs, USMC (Ret.)	21-24 Oct 2021 Quantico, VA	(203) 366-3156 (703) 493-9435	tlkanasky@earthlink.net mitchyoungs@verizon.net
TBS 3/67 and 41st OCC Reunion Robert Wright	21-24 Oct 2021 San Diego, CA	(510) 333-3165	rbwright1@mac.com
HMM-165/VMM-165 All Hands/All Years	21-24 Oct 2021 Glendale, AZ		165whiteknights.com
USMC A4 Skyhawkers Mark Williams	21-24 Oct 2021 Las Vegas, NV	(425) 327-6050	usmcskyhawker21@gmail.com
38/39th OCC - Basic Class 8199 3-66 & 4-66 Walt Flynn Lonnie Myers	25-29 Oct 2021 Las Vegas, NV	(617) 974-8199 (541) 910-1061	whflynnjr@comcast.net myersl@eou.edu
Vietnam CoVan Advisor Reunion Col Regan Wright, USMC (Ret.)	Apr 2022 Planning stages	(619) 224-1800	oneputt868@aol.com wright868@aol.com
2d Marine Expeditionary Brigade Afghanistan (2009-2010) 10-Year Reunion LtCol Matt Frazier, USMC (Ret.)	13-15 May 2022 Quantico, VA	(760) 623-5918	taskforceleatherneck@gmail.com Facebook: 2dMEBAfghanistan <a href="https://mca-marines.org/task-force-leatherneck-reunion/">https://mca-marines.org/task-force-leatherneck-reunion/</a> the_frazier_family@yahoo.com
USMC WX Service Reunion Kathy Donham Dave Englert	19-24 Jun 2022 Overland Park, KS	(252) 342-8459	kathy.donham@hotmail.com englertd@psci.net
TBS Class 5-71 E Co LtCol Robert Lange, USMC (Ret.)	Jun 2022 Quantico, VA Planning stages	(949) 644-8229	rlange@brandtgp.com Seeking planner/ financial assistance available to defray organizing costs.
AWS 1-82 Classmates & Staff 40th Reunion LtCol Paul LeBlanc, USMC (Ret.)	Jun-Jul 2022 Planning stages	(619) 417-4306	pepelb@aol.com
10th Marine Regiment (all years) MSgt John Fontenoy, USMC (Ret.)	Summer 2022 Planning stages		10thmarinereunion2020@gmail.com
TBS Class 4-73 Delta Co 50th Reunion Col Bill Anderson USMCR (Ret.) Col Bob Donaghue USMCR (Ret.)	2023 Planning stages	(540) 850-4213 (617) 840-0267	binche57@yahoo.com ip350haven@comcast.net

Note to Reunion Planners: Send your reunion events as soon as possible to our organizational mailbox (smb.manpower.mmsr6@usmc.mil) to ensure timely inclusion in this publication. We apologize for the inconvenience with any delayed or missed events due to an unforeseen change in the distribution of this publication. Visit the MCCA web site (<http://www.usmc-mcca.org/reunion/>) for information on how to organize your reunion and lists of upcoming events.





# TAPS

The Marine Corps wishes to extend heartfelt sympathy to the loved ones and friends of our fallen comrades. Because of the Privacy Act, we cannot release addresses of the next of kin. The following list includes the Marine's name, last grade held that was reported to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, month and year of retirement, and month and year of death.

**Note:** In an effort to reduce erroneous listings, Semper Fidelis will only announce deaths that have been confirmed from DFAS. Telephonic reporting of deaths to MMSR-6 are first confirmed before posted in this column.

## COLONEL

GLOWICKI, WALTER F. Sep 76/Jan 21  
 RILLING, GEORGE A. Jun 88/Jan 21  
 SHOUP, JOHN D. Jul 82/Jan 21  
 TINLING, JEROME B. Sep 88/Feb 21  
 WARREN, ROBERT F. Sep 69/Feb 21

## LIEUTENANT COLONEL

ABAJIAN, MICHAEL C. Aug 88/Mar 21  
 CORLEY, JR., WILLIAM B. Aug 93/Jan 21  
 EVANS, DONNIE C. Jul 84/Mar 21  
 GAMBLE, WILLIAM N. Jun 92/Feb 21  
 KAENZIG, WILLIAM W. Jun 68/Jan 21  
 KINNEY, RICHARD D. Jul 94/Feb 21  
 SGAMBELLURI, ADOLFO P. Jun 80/Feb 21

## MAJOR

BRIGHT, ROBERT C. Jul 77/ Feb 21  
 CARROLL, CHARLES W. Nov 64/Feb 21  
 DUKE, WILLIAM E. Jul 76/Feb 21  
 HITCHCOCK, GENE R. Oct 71/ Feb 21  
 LOWE, JR., JAMES W. Jul 80/Mar 21  
 LYTTLE, JOHN T. Aug 97/Mar 21  
 RHODES, JAMES C. Sep 69/Jan 21

## FIRST LIEUTENANT

ANDERSON, ROBERT A. Jun 69/Feb 21

## CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER

DEBNAR, ALBERT A. CWO2 Nov 70/Jan 21  
 SIMCOX, CLARKE J. CWO4 Jul 74/Feb 21

## SERGEANT MAJOR

ATHEY, JR., ALVIN S. Oct 02/Mar 21  
 BECKERMEYER, JR., JOHN R. Dec 08/Feb 21  
 DAY, FRANK H. Aug 73/Feb 21  
 HAYES, GERALD O. Oct 86/Jan 21

## MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT

CARLSON, JOHN C. Jun 00/Feb 21  
 DRUMMOND, ERIC A. May 11/Jan 21  
 GOMILLION, HARVEY L. Jul 20/Mar 21  
 REDDAN, WILLIAM F. Apr 20/Jan 21  
 TONDREAU, EMILE A. Jul 96/Feb 21  
 WHITE, JOSEPH C. Sep 20/Feb 21  
 WIGGINS, EDWIN D. Feb 93/Feb 21

## FIRST SERGEANT

BURTON, JR., CHARLES K. Oct 81/Jul 19  
 KELLY, LEWIS S. Jun 72/Feb 21  
 RAWSON, STANLEY A. Mar 82/Feb 21  
 SANDLER, LESTER Jun 66/Jan 21

## MASTER SERGEANT

BARTLETT, GARY R. Oct 80/Feb 21  
 BORROWMAN, CARL E. Mar 12/Mar 21  
 BROOKS, JOSEPH Nov 67/Feb 21  
 NELSON, REGINALD D. Sep 80/Jan 21  
 PALMIERI, JACK T. Nov 95/May 21  
 PENAFLO, RICHARD G. Nov 85/Mar 21  
 SMITH, WILLIAM E. May 67/Jan 21  
 VANCE, THOMAS E. Jun 68/Feb 21  
 VOLL, ALAN E. Jul 07/Dec 20  
 WALKER, DANNY G. Oct 92/Mar 21  
 WALKER, JAMES S. Jun 04/Feb 21  
 WALLS, ANDREW P. Jul 68/Feb 21  
 WALTON, GROVER W. Sep 75/Mar 21



# TAPS

The Marine Corps wishes to extend heartfelt sympathy to the loved ones and friends of our fallen comrades. Because of the Privacy Act, we cannot release addresses of the next of kin. The following list includes the Marine's name, last grade held that was reported to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, month and year of retirement, and month and year of death.

**Note:** In an effort to reduce erroneous listings, Semper Fidelis will only announce deaths that have been confirmed from DFAS. Telephonic reporting of deaths to MMSR-6 are first confirmed before posted in this column.

## GUNNERY SERGEANT

ABBOTT, DAVID G. Jun 76/Feb 21  
 BREWSTER, WILLIAM L. Apr 75/Mar 21  
 DOUTHETT, RONALD L. Jan 75/Jan 21  
 HALL, RICHARD M. Feb 68/Mar 21  
 HULL, JR., RICHARD A. Oct 04/Jan 21  
 KUBIK, DONALD E. Sep 75/Feb 21  
 MANDL, LOUIS L. Jul 75/Jan 21  
 ROWE, GARY E. Sep 95/Mar 21  
 THRWEATT, JOHN L. Aug 71/Jan 21  
 WHISENHUNT, LEWIS A. Feb 80/Oct 20

## STAFF SERGEANT

OZMUN, JR., ROY R. Oct 98/Jan 21  
 REYNA, NICHOLAS S. Jan 02/Feb 21  
 WHALEY, JAMES F. Feb 68/Feb 21

## SERGEANT

KIRKWOOD, JOHN S. Dec 68/Mar 21  
 LEBLANC, ROBERT L. Dec 69/Mar 21  
 SCHULDT, WILLIAM W. Mar 69/Jan 21

## CORPORAL

CARR, THOMAS J. Oct 70/Jan 21  
 TIPTON, REX D. Dec 59/Feb 21

## LANCE CORPORAL

FLINT, WALTER W. Oct 53/Feb 21  
 PARKER, RICHARD L. Nov 76/Dec 20  
 SZYARTO, JOSEPH A. Dec 68/Mar 21

## PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

CABEY, JR., ALFRED A. May 54/Feb 21  
 FINNEY, JR., STANFORD Jul 71/Feb 21  
 ROSS, CHARLES R. May 63/Feb 21  
 SIMMONS, KENT D. May 59/Jan 21

## PRIVATE

JUGON, ROBERT F. Oct 59/Jan 21

### ID Card Notice

Effective immediately: In an ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on identification (ID) card site operations, DoD policy extends the USID card expiration date.

- USID card extensions are based upon personnel categories. Personnel categories other than retiree and retiree dependents will have different extension expirations.
- The USMC retiree and retiree dependents ID cards with an expiration date between January 1, 2020, and July 31, 2021, are extended until January 31, 2022.
- USID cards with an expiration date after July 31, 2021, must be replaced prior to the expiration date and are not covered under this extension policy.
- USID cards with extended expiration dates must be replaced prior to the end date of the approved extension date.

Visit the DoD Response to COVID-19 - DoD ID Cards and Benefits website (<https://www.cac.mil/Coronavirus/>) to learn more about the USID card extension policy.

**Do not wait until your ID card nears the extended expiration date for renewal.** You are encouraged to schedule an appointment at your nearest ID card facility. Please contact the ID Office to determine if walk-ins are accepted.

To schedule an appointment to have an ID card reissued, visit the ID Card Office Online website (<https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>), and select the ID Card Office Locator & Appointments option.

# Steps to Take When an Annuitant Dies

## ELIGIBILITY FOR SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN ANNUITY PAY ENDS WITH THE DEATH OF THE ANNUITANT (BENEFICIARY)

Prompt reporting of a deceased military annuitant’s death can help avoid delay and prevent possible financial hardship for the surviving family members or executors, who will be required to return any unearned payments of the decedent’s annuity pay if payment is erroneously received. \*\*\*While the VA does not provide burial benefits for annuitants, the annuitant may be eligible for burial in a military cemetery.

Follow these steps to report the death of an annuitant:

1. Call DFAS at 1-800-321-1080 to report the death and stop annuity pay.
2. Mail or fax a copy of the annuitant’s death certificate to:

### DFAS - U.S. MILITARY ANNUITANT PAY

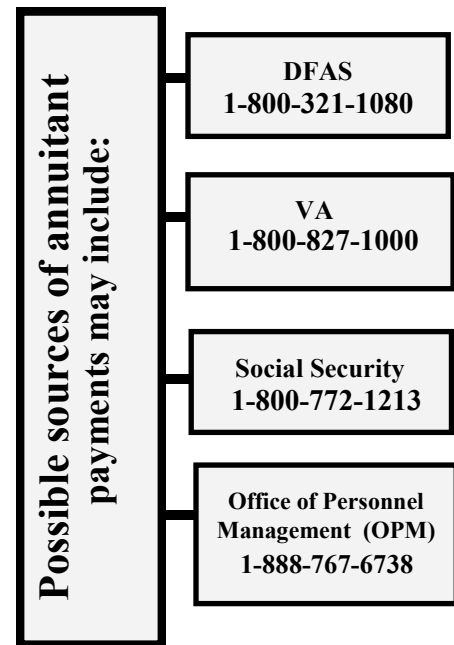
8899 E. 56th Street

Indianapolis, IN 46249-1300

Fax: 1-800-982-8459

3. Inform any financial institutions receiving payments about the death of the annuitant. (Provide a copy of the death certificate when it becomes available).
4. If applicable, contact the following agencies/departments immediately to report the death:

- **Social Security Administration:** 1-800-772-1213 [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
- **Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System:** 1-800-538-9552
- **Department of Veterans Affairs:** 1-800-827-1000 (annuitants in receipt of Dependency) and Indemnity



If you believe you are the victim of an error or injustice which affects your military record, you may apply for a Correction of Military Records by completing and submitting a DD Form 149, Application for Correction of Military Record. Examples of corrections include: upgraded discharge, promotions, retired pay, household goods, pay date change, bonus, and MGIB programs. DFAS pays military members when the Board for Corrections of Naval Records (BCNR) rule in their favor. If you received a decision from the BCNR and you do not agree with it, write the Board and explain your reasoning. Reference the appropriate address on page 2 of the DD Form 149. If you would like to check the status of your request contact the BCNR directly at (703) 604 - 6884 (Navy/Marine Corps). If you believe DFAS paid you incorrectly for your Correction of Record, provide documentation with a handwritten signature explaining why you are protesting the amount to:

**DFAS-IN**

Dept. 3330, Attn: COR/Claims  
 8899 East 56th Street  
 Indianapolis, IN 46249-3300  
 DFAS Inquiry Line: (317) 212-6167  
 (Hours: 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, EST)

## Steps to Take When a Retired Marine Dies

1. **REPORT THE DEATH TO DFAS at 1-888-332-7411** to stop retirement pay and avoid indebtedness. If the retired Marine was receiving pay from another source due to a disability from the VA or civil service retirement from the Office of Personnel Management, contact that agency to return the payment. If you fail to do this, you will have to repay it later.

You may also report the death online at [www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms.html](http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms.html). Additional information from DFAS is available at [www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/Retiree-death.html](http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/Retiree-death.html).

For families located overseas, the commercial number is **216-522-5955**, select option 3 to be directed to the appropriate representative.

NOTE: DFAS will forward a confirmed death listing to Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps (MMSR-6) for inclusion in an upcoming issue of this newsletter under the TAPS column.

2. Within 7-10 business days after reporting the death to DFAS, you should receive a letter containing the following documents:
  - a. SF1174 Claim for Unpaid Compensation of Deceased Member of the Uniformed Service
  - b. Annuity account forms and instructions (if the decedent was enrolled in the Survivor Benefit Plan or the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan)
  - c. W-4P Withholding Certificate for Pension or Annuity Payments
  - d. Direct Deposit form

Complete the forms you received with your letter and return them with a copy of the retiree's death certificate that includes cause of death to:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service  
 U.S. Military Retired Pay  
 8899 E 56th Street  
 Indianapolis IN 46249-1200

If you need assistance completing your claim forms, please call 800-321-1080.

3. **REPORT SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN ELECTION, if applicable.** Designated annuitants will receive notification from DFAS if the deceased retired Marine elected SBP. If you are uncertain whether an election was made, call DFAS at 1-800-321-1080.
4. **UPDATE YOUR MILITARY ID CARD.** Your status has changed, and as the survivor of a deceased Marine, your ID card must be updated to reflect it due to the Marine's death. Access your nearest ID site at <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco> or call HQMC (MMSR-6) at 1-800-336-4649 or (703) 784-9310 to obtain the sites closest to you.
5. **NOTIFY THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION** at 1-800-SSA-1213 ([www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)) to apply for the \$255 death benefit, *if applicable*.
6. **CONTACT THE VA** at 1-800-827-1000 **FOR BURIAL AND OTHER VA BENEFITS, such as VA disability payments.** A copy of the sponsor's DD 214 is required. Visit [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) for more information.
7. **CONTACT THE U.S. OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT** at 1-888-767-6738 if the sponsor was receiving civil service pay.

## **MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS FOR BURIALS OUTSIDE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY (ANC)**

The funeral director (preferred) or a family member can contact the HQMC Military Funeral Honors Section at (866) 826-3628 or (703) 432-9524 to request Military Funeral Honors for a veteran. The funeral director (or family member) must be able to provide the Marine's complete name, SSN, rank, status (retired or veteran), date of birth, date of death, and place of death/interment. In addition, a copy of the Marine's DD-214 needs to be provided for verification of "honorable service". If a DD-214 is not readily available, it can be requested through the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, MO. The following link provides additional details:

<https://www.hqmc.marines.mil/Agencies/Casualty-MFPC/Funeral-Honors/>

## **MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS FOR BURIALS AT ANC**

A family member will need to contact ANC directly. The following link provides information on eligibility, required documents, and additional resources for scheduling and attending funerals at ANC. Marine Barracks Washington provides Military Funeral Honors for Marine burials at ANC.

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Funerals/Scheduling-a-Funeral>

## **Agencies Providing Aid and Assistance To Surviving Spouses**

Arlington National Cemetery: (703) 607-8000

Gold Star Wives of America: 1-888-751-6350, [www.goldstarwives.org](http://www.goldstarwives.org)

Military Funeral Honors: 1-866-826-3628 or (703) 432-9524

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society: (703) 696-4904, [www.nmcrcs.org](http://www.nmcrcs.org)

National Military Families Association: 1-800-260-0218, [www.nmfa.org](http://www.nmfa.org)

Society of Military Widows: 1-800-842-3451, [www.militarywidows.org/home.aspx](http://www.militarywidows.org/home.aspx)

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors: 1-800-959-8277, [www.taps.org](http://www.taps.org)



### SOME THINGS YOU WILL NEED TO DO:

- Gather important documents for claims processing (e.g., birth certificate, will, etc.)
- Begin to make funeral and burial arrangements
- Start claim process for applicable benefits (e.g., SBP, VA life insurance, Social Security)
- Determine immediate and short-term financial needs and income sources
- Arrange for help with legal affairs of the deceased
- Notify joint account agencies (e.g., credit cards, banks, auto registration, home/auto insurance)
- Review survivor's own legal documents for possible revision
- Obtain multiple certified death certificates (6-12 copies)



## Directory Assistance Pages - - - - -

### A

#### AMC PASSENGER TERMINAL:

<http://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel-Site/>

#### ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY:

(703) 607-8000

[www.arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil)

#### ARMED FORCES RECREATION CENTERS:

[www.armymwr.com/travel/recreationcenters/](http://www.armymwr.com/travel/recreationcenters/)

- **Edelweiss Lodge and Resort (Germany):**

(011-49) 8821-9440

- **Hale Koa Hotel (Hawaii):** 1-800-367-6027

#### ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOMES (GULFPORT):

Gulfport, MS: (228) 897-4418

<https://www.afrh.gov/gulfport-residents>

#### ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOMES (WASHINGTON):

Washington, DC: (202) 541-7501

<https://www.afrh.gov/washington-residents>

#### AWARDS:

Marines who have been discharged, separated or retired on or before 31 December 1998 should submit their inquiry to:

National Personnel Record Center  
Military Personnel Records  
1 Archives Dr., St. Louis, MO 63138  
Phone: (314) 801-0800

Marines who have been discharged, separated or retired on or after 1 January 1999 should submit their inquiry to:

Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMMA)  
2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134  
(703) 784-9342/9343  
Fax: (703) 784-9866

### B

#### BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS:

701 S. Courthouse Rd., Bldg. 12, Suite 1001

Arlington, VA 22204-2490

(703) 604-6884/6885; Fax: (703) 604-3437

[www.donhq.navy.mil/bcncr/bcncr.htm](http://www.donhq.navy.mil/bcncr/bcncr.htm)

### C

#### CAMP LEJEUNE NOTIFICATION REGISTRY:

<https://clnr.hqi.usmc.mil/clwater>

#### COLD WAR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM:

Attn: AHRC-PDP-A, Dept. 480, USAHRC

1600 Spearhead Division Ave.

Ft. Knox, KY 40122-5408

Fax: 1-800-723-9262 or (502) 613-9510

<https://www.hrc.army.mil>

(Type "Cold War Certificate" in the search box)

#### COMBAT-RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION:

SECNAV CRSC Board

720 Kennon St. SE, Ste. 309; Washington, DC 20374-5023

1-877-366-2772, Fax: (202) 685-6610

[CRSC@navy.mil](mailto:CRSC@navy.mil)

<http://www.secnnav.navy.mil/mra/CORB/pages/crscb/default.aspx>

### D

#### DD 214s:

Marines who have been discharged, separated, or retired on or before 31 December 1998:

National Personnel Records Center

1 Archives Dr., St. Louis, MO 63138

(314) 801-0800; Fax: (314) 801-9195

[PR.center@nara.gov](mailto:PR.center@nara.gov); [www.archives.gov/st-louis](http://www.archives.gov/st-louis)

Marines discharged/retired/separated on or after 1 January 1999:

Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMRP)-10

2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5030

1-800-268-3710; [smb.manpower.mmrp@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmrp@usmc.mil)

#### DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE:

1-800-321-1080, [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil)

U.S. and OCONUS: (216) 522-5955, Fax: 1-800-469-6559

#### DFAS Special Compensation for the Severely Disabled:

P.O. Box 998011; Cleveland, OH 44199-8011

(216) 522-6170

### E

**E-BENEFITS:** <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/appmanager/eb/veterans>

### F

**FEDVIP:** Office of Personnel Management's Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program

**1-877-888-FEDS** (1-877-888-3337)

<https://www.benefeds.com/>

### M

#### MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION:

715 Broadway St., Quantico, VA 22134

1-866-622-1775, ext. 100, Fax: (703) 640-0162

[mca@mca-marines.org](mailto:mca@mca-marines.org)

- **Leatherneck Magazine**

1-800-336-0291, ext. 115; Fax: (703) 640-0823

[leatherneck@mca-marines.org](mailto:leatherneck@mca-marines.org)

- **Marine Corps Gazette**

1-800-336-0291, ext. 144; Fax: (703) 630-9147

[gazette@mca-marines.org](mailto:gazette@mca-marines.org)

## ----- Directory Assistance Pages

**MARINE BARRACKS WASHINGTON:**

8th and I, Washington, DC, [www.barracks.marines.mil](http://www.barracks.marines.mil)

**MARINE CORPS HISTORY DIVISION:**

Marine Corps University  
2044 Broadway Street, Quantico, VA 22134-5001  
(703) 432-4874, [www.history.division@usmcu.edu](mailto:www.history.division@usmcu.edu)

**MARINE CORPS JUNIOR ROTC TECOM (C46JR):**

1019 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5001  
(703) 784-3706; [www.mcjrotc.org](http://www.mcjrotc.org)

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE NATIONAL HQ:**

3619 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Suite 115  
Stafford, VA 22554, (703) 207-9588: [JFoster@MCLeague.org](mailto:JFoster@MCLeague.org)  
(Membership Manager)

**MARINE CORPS RECORDS CORRESPONDENCE (MMRP-12):**

2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5030  
1-800-268-3710, (703) 784-3930/4646/5616

**MCCS COMMUNITY SERVICES:** [www.usmc-mccs.org](http://www.usmc-mccs.org)

**MEDICAL RECORDS:** Marines who have been discharged/separated/retired on 1 May 1994 or later:

**VA Records Management Center:**

P.O. Box 5020; St. Louis, MO 63115-8950  
1-888-533-4558; Fax: (314) 538-4571

Marines who have been discharged/separated/retired before 1 May 1994 contact NPRC: (314) 801-0800.

**MEDICARE:** 1-800-633-4227; [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)

**N****NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS:**

18900 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Triangle, VA 22172  
1-877-653-1775; [www.usmcmuseum.org](http://www.usmcmuseum.org)

**NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER:**

(314) 801-0800; <https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center/military-personnel>

**NAVY LODGE WORLDWIDE RESERVATIONS CENTER:**

1-800-NAVY-INN; [www.navy-lodge.com](http://www.navy-lodge.com)

**NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY:**

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1-800-654-8364; <http://www.nmcrs.org>

**Q****QUANTICO NATIONAL CEMETERY:**

(703) 221-2183; [www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/quantico.asp](http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/quantico.asp)

**S****SISTER SERVICE RETIREE PUBLICATIONS:**

- Air Force Afterburner:** <http://www.retirees.af.mil/Library/Afterburner/>

- Army Echoes:** <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/echoes>

- Coast Guard Evening Colors:** [www.uscg.mil/ppc/retnews](http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/retnews)

- Navy Shift Colors:** [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil)  
(Click "Links" and "Shift Colors")

**SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION:** 1-800-772-1213, [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

**SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN:**

[www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/provide/sbp.html](http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/provide/sbp.html)

**T**

**THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN:** 1-877-968-3778; Fax: (216) 367-3605; TSP mailbox: [ccl-mc-tsp@dfas.mil](mailto:ccl-mc-tsp@dfas.mil)  
International callers: (404) 233-4400  
<https://www.tsp.gov/index.html>

**TRICARE:** <https://tricare.mil/>

- East:** 1- 800-444-5445;  
<https://www.humanamilitary.com/east/>
- West:** 1-844-866-9378;  
<https://www.tricare-west.com>
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<https://www.tricare-overseas.com>
- Health Beneficiary Counseling Assistance Coordinator:** <https://tricare.mil//bcacdeao>

**TRICARE for LIFE:** 1-866-773-0404;  
[www.tricare4u.com](http://www.tricare4u.com)

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*Active Duty Separation and Retirement*

- **Officer**  
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- **Enlisted**  
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**MMSR-4:** (703) 784-9308/09  
*Disability Separation, Retirement and Limited Duty*  
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**MMSR-5:** (703) 784-9306/07  
*Inactive Reserve Separation and Retirement*  
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