

# SEMPER FIDELIS

## NEWSLETTER FOR RETIRED MARINES



Photo by LCpl Trent A. Henry

### **Marines Standardize Recruit Depots, Deactivate Historic Battalion**

By Marines.mil 3 May 2023

PARRIS ISLAND, S.C. -- In a milestone emphasizing the Marine Corps' successful standardization in recruit training, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island will deactivate its Fourth Recruit Training Battalion in a ceremony June 15, 2023, and realign personnel between the service's two recruit training locations.

"This is a moment to celebrate the legacy of so many of our Marines who made the transformation through 4th Recruit Training Battalion," said Gen. David H. Berger, the Commandant of the Marine Corps. "It's also a moment to celebrate progress. I'm proud to see our male and female recruits benefit from having access to the quality of all our leaders—at Parris Island and San Diego—through an unchanging, tough, and realistic recruit training curriculum."

Since 1949 and until recently, Parris Island served as the sole point of entry into the Marine Corps for all enlisted female Marines. Since that time, female Marines have trained under multiple guidons, with 4<sup>th</sup> Recruit Training Battalion transforming Marines since 1986. Male recruits began training within Fourth Battalion in 2020. Today, successful recruit training standardization makes an all-female training battalion unnecessary, as all recruits have been training in gender-integrated companies since 2022.

"On 1 November 1986, 4th Recruit Training Battalion was established as the Corps' only unit through which women could earn the title of U. S. Marine," said Brig. Gen. Walker M. Field, Commanding General of MCRD Parris Island and the Eastern Recruiting Region. "Since then, those Marines have transformed thousands of young women, and since 2021 men, through rigorous basic training and our Corps' cherished legacy, preparing them to win our nation's battles. On 15 June 2023, we will bid farewell to 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion in a deactivation ceremony that concludes her glorious tenure, closing the final chapter of integrating Recruit training. We are forever grateful to the Drill Instructors, staff, and legions of Marines who so proudly call 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion home."

The personnel move to standardize the recruit training experience includes a portion of the personnel structure previously serving 4<sup>th</sup> Recruit Training Battalion moving from Parris Island to San Diego. This will create a more similar organization at both depots while MCRD San Diego increases their throughput of integrated training companies to match that of MCRD Parris Island. MCRD San Diego is scheduled to train approximately half of the female Marine population by fiscal year 2024.

"What matters most is making the very best Marines," said Sgt. Maj. Troy E. Black, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps. "It won't be long before there are female Drill Instructors who, as recruits, graduated alongside their male counterparts. They will train recruits and make Marines with that experience."

The ceremony will be held at Parris Island this summer to formally deactivate the battalion, honor its legacy, and highlight the historic unit's impact on the transformation of female Marines. More details on the event will follow in a later release.

**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 988 and then Press 1, chat online at [veteranscrisisline.net](https://veteranscrisisline.net), or text to 838255.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is available to anyone at **988 and then press 1.**

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FOR RETIRED MARINES**

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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- 3) **How COVID-19 Public Health Emergency's End affects TRICARE**
- 4) **TRICARE Formulary Search Tool**
- 6) **5 Tips To Start a Conversation About Getting Mental Health Care**
- 8) **Reunions**
- 9) **Military Retiree Appreciation Days**
- 10) **2023 Centenarian Marines**
- 11) **Col Schott Silver Star recipient**
- 12) **TAPS**
- 14) **Retired and Annuitant Pay Schedule**
- 15) **Pursue Financial Stability and Security**
- 16) **How to check your PACT Act Claims Status**
- 17) **TSP Automated Response System**
- 18) **USMC Retired Services Office**
- 19) **Steps to Take When an Annuitant Dies**
- 20) **Steps when a Retiree dies**
- 21) **Directory**



## How COVID-19 Public Health Emergency's End affects TRICARE

By TRICARE Communications May 15, 2023

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – The Public Health Emergency (PHE) for COVID-19 expired at the end of May 11. You might be wondering what this means about the state of COVID-19 or if there are changes to your TRICARE coverage.

“COVID-19 is still a public health threat in the U.S. and around the world,” said Elan Green, chief of TRICARE Health Plan’s Member Benefits and Reimbursement Section. “But widescale efforts to mitigate the worst impacts of COVID-19 have helped us reach a point where we’re no longer in a state of emergency.”

Most Department of Defense COVID-19 activities won’t be directly affected by the end of the PHE. For example, you’ll still have access to COVID-19 vaccines, testing, and treatments through TRICARE. And many telehealth services are now a permanent TRICARE benefit. But keep these changes in mind:

- **COVID-19 Testing:** You may have a cost-share for COVID-19 testing. TRICARE only covers COVID-19 tests that are medically necessary and ordered by a TRICARE-authorized provider. If you have TRICARE For Life, learn how Medicare coverage of COVID-19 testing is changing.
- **Telehealth:** To help protect your privacy, all providers must now use HIPAA-compliant telehealth platforms.
- **Clinical Trials:** Temporary coverage of National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases–sponsored COVID-19 clinical trials ended April 10. If you were enrolled in a covered trial on or before April 10, your care will be covered through the end of the trial.
- **Skilled Nursing Facilities:** A temporary waiver of the requirement for a three-day prior hospital stay before admission to a skilled nursing facility ended for new admissions after April 10.

### Protect yourself from COVID-19

It’s still important to take steps to help protect yourself and others. Vaccines are still the most effective tool to prevent serious illness, long-term effects, and death from COVID-19—even if you’ve had COVID-19 in the past.

Are you and your family up to date with COVID-19 vaccines? As outlined in recently updated CDC guidance:

- **Everyone 6 years and older** is up to date if they’ve received 1 updated (bivalent) Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, regardless of whether they’ve received any original COVID-19 vaccines. If you’re 65 or older, you may get a second dose of the updated vaccine.
- **Children ages 6 months through 5 years** should get 1 or more doses of the updated vaccine, depending on their age and which COVID-19 vaccines they’ve already received.

Go to the CDC website to learn more about COVID-19 vaccine recommendations and benefits of getting vaccinated. Your health care provider can give you guidance on when you should get the updated vaccine.

You have options for where you can get an updated COVID-19 vaccine. These include:

- Military hospitals, clinics, and vaccination sites
- Local or state health department vaccination sites
- Your civilian provider
- Pharmacies participating in the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program, participating pharmacies, and vaccination sites, which can include local convenience store chains and grocery stores

You can get updated COVID-19 vaccines at no cost. But you may have costs for an office visit or if you need follow-on care. Your out-of-pocket costs would be based on your TRICARE health plan.



## Getting a New Prescription? Check TRICARE Formulary Search Tool

By TRICARE Communications May 16, 2013



FALLS CHURCH, Va. – You’re at a medical appointment and you’re getting a new prescription. Before your provider sends an electronic prescription or gives you a paper prescription, it may be helpful for you and your provider to look up the drug with the TRICARE Formulary Search Tool <https://www.express-scripts.com/frontend/open-enrollment/tricare/fst/#/>

“The TRICARE Formulary Search Tool makes it easy to learn about your prescription,” said Melanie Richardson, a pharmacist in the Pharmacy Operations Division at the Defense Health Agency. “You can see if your prescription is covered, where you can fill it, and if your provider needs to request pre-authorization. The tool updates in real time, so information is almost always current.”

While you can use the tool any time you’d like, using it with your provider can be helpful if your provider wants to prescribe a drug you’ve never taken before. Here are some tips on how to use the search tool before you get a new prescription.

### How To Use the TRICARE Formulary Search Tool

The TRICARE pharmacy contractor, Express Scripts, hosts the TRICARE Formulary Search Tool. You don’t need to log in to your Express Scripts account to use the tool, so you can use it on a computer or smartphone. Just go to [www.express-scripts.com/tform](http://www.express-scripts.com/tform) to start a search.

For general information about a drug:

- Type the drug name and strength in the medication search box.
- Beneath the search box, choose your sex and age from the dropdown menus.
- Click “Search” to see information about the drug.

To filter results by drug strength, form, route, or type:

- Click the “Advanced medication search” link.
- Type the drug name and choose your sex and age from the dropdown menus.
- Click “Next” to see a list of results.
- Use the dropdown menus at the top to filter the results.
- Click “Select” next to the drug you’d like to learn more about.

To learn more about your options for COVID-19 vaccines, check out COVID guidance for TRICARE beneficiaries <https://www.tricare.mil/HealthWellness/HealthyLiving/Coronavirus> . If you have coverage questions, you can call your TRICARE contractor.

## Information You Can Find

Once you've looked up your drug, you can find detailed information, including:

- General information about the drug, including what it's used for, possible side effects, FAQs, and an image of the drug
- The formulary status of the drug
- Coverage details and limitations

Whether you can fill your prescription at <https://www.tricare.mil/militarypharmacy>, through home <https://www.tricare.mil/CoveredServices/Pharmacy/FillPrescriptions/HomeDelivery> delivery, or at <https://www.tricare.mil/CoveredServices/Pharmacy/FillPrescriptions/Network>

- Copayments

Remember, copayments apply if you aren't an active duty service member, as outlined in the TRICARE Pharmacy Program Overview Fact Sheet [https://www.tricare.mil/Publications/Fact-Sheets/pharmacy\\_overview](https://www.tricare.mil/Publications/Fact-Sheets/pharmacy_overview). Copayments also vary based on where you get your prescription filled and if the drug is generic, brand name, or non-formulary.

## Pre-Authorization (or Prior Authorization) and Medical Necessity

Depending on the drug you search for, you may see a link that says, "Coverage rules apply." This often means your provider needs to request pre-authorization or submit proof of medical necessity to Express Scripts. This is often the case for brand-name drugs that have generic equivalents and non-formulary drugs. It can also apply if the drug has age limits. Click "Coverage rules apply" for more information and provider forms.

## Other Drug Options

There may be times when you'll want to see if there are drugs similar to the one you need but with lower out-of-pocket costs or different coverage rules. After you look up a drug, click "Other drug options" beneath the drug's name to check for similar drugs. And if the drug is available as both a generic drug and a brand-name drug, you can toggle between "generic" and "brand-name" tabs to compare costs and coverage for each.

Using the TRICARE Formulary Search Tool helps you make the best decisions about filling your prescriptions. Check out TRICARE Pharmacy Program to learn more about your pharmacy benefit.

Visit [www.tricare.mil/pharmacyclaims](http://www.tricare.mil/pharmacyclaims) to learn more about filing claims.

### FOR INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

#### TRICARE Pharmacy Program

[www.tricare.mil/pharmacy](http://www.tricare.mil/pharmacy)

#### Express Scripts (U.S. and U.S. territories)

1-877-363-1303

1-877-540-6261 (TDD/TTY)

[www.militaryrx.express-scripts.com](http://www.militaryrx.express-scripts.com)

[DOD.customer.relations@express-scripts.com](mailto:DOD.customer.relations@express-scripts.com)

#### International SOS (Outside U.S. and U.S. territories)

[www.tricare-overseas.com/beneficiaries/resources/pharmacy](http://www.tricare-overseas.com/beneficiaries/resources/pharmacy)

## An Important Note About TRICARE Program Information

It is important to remember that TRICARE policies and benefits are governed by public law and federal regulations. Changes to TRICARE programs are continually made as public law and/or federal regulations are amended. **Military hospital and clinic guidelines and policies may be different than those outlined in this publication.** For the most recent information, contact the TRICARE pharmacy contractor or your local military hospital or clinic. TRICARE is a registered trademark of the Department of Defense, Defense Health Agency. All rights reserved



## 5 Tips To Start a Conversation About Getting Mental Health Care

By TRICARE Communications May 24, 2023



Official Marine Corps photo

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – “How are you?” It’s a question almost everyone answers every day. Like most, your usual response is probably, “Fine, thanks. How are you?”

But if you really think about it, are you fine? Maybe you haven’t been yourself in a while. You’re feeling sad, stressed, lonely, or just not how you want to feel. You’d like to start feeling better but aren’t sure where to start.

“You might not know what you need or where to begin, but just start by asking questions,” said Dr. Krystyna Bienia, clinical psychologist and senior policy analyst at the Defense Health Agency. “TRICARE covers a wide range of mental health and support services to help you.”

Bienia added that if you or a loved one is having thoughts of suicide, don’t wait to get help. Anyone can call the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline in the U.S. Dial 988 and choose option 1 to connect with the Military Crisis Line. The crisis line is free and available 24/7 to help you through a crisis and connect you with mental health resources.

What’s one of the first steps to get help? Service members can reach out to their command leadership. And everyone—service members, retirees, family members—has an initial contact: their health care provider. The National Institute of Mental Health says to reach out to your primary care manager (PCM). Your PCM is trained to talk with you about your concerns and get you linked with a plan to get back on track. Make an appointment to start the conversation.

Bienia offers these tips for talking with your PCM about your mental health.

### **Tip #1: Write down your thoughts and feelings**

Sometimes it’s hard to explain what’s going on inside, especially if you aren’t feeling like yourself. Before your appointment, write down the feelings you’ve been having, when they started, and how they’re affecting your day-to-day life. By writing down what you’re experiencing, you’ll feel better prepared to meet with your PCM.

### **Tip #2: Just start talking**

Once you see your PCM, remember, you don’t have to have the “right words”—just start talking. Tell your PCM how you’re feeling and what you’re thinking. Your PCM will help you piece together what you’re saying to help decide on next steps that are right for you.

**Tip #3: Ask questions**

Your provider is your partner to get a plan in place to start addressing your concerns. Based on your conversation, ask any questions you think of. The questions you ask will guide your plan. For instance, your PCM may suggest speaking to a mental health provider—a certified social worker, clinical psychologist, or psychiatrist—who can work with you individually or in a group. Your PCM might also suggest a medication. Either way, ask what your options are and the benefits and risks of each.

**Tip #4: Be open to other resources**

If your provider doesn't think you need to see a mental health provider, they might suggest getting help through non-clinical resources. You can find resources through your service or community, chaplains, family-life counselors, support groups, and Military OneSource <https://www.militaryonesource.mil>.

**Tip #5: Welcome the changes that unfold**

Be open to what the process holds in store. It may not be easy, but hang in there and believe you can get to where you want to be.

“Reaching out to a health care provider is important because mental health issues can lead to other health conditions,” said Bienia. “Your PCM is able to help you with those aspects of your health and well-being.”

If you need help finding a provider, you can use Find a Doctor <https://www.tricare.mil/findadoctor>. You can also reach out to your TRICARE regional contractor <https://www.tricare.mil/partners> for help.








So, the next time you're asked how you're doing, respond honestly. And use these tips to start a conversation with your provider. You can also explore mental health services TRICARE covers. Remember, you are not alone, and you don't have to be in crisis to ask for help.

**Getting Care**

Find a doctor near home or while traveling.



<https://www.tricare.mil/GettingCare/PatientResources/ContactUs>

	<a href="#">Call Us</a> Find the right phone number for what you need.
	<a href="#">Login for Secure Services</a> Find the right place to log in for secure services like enrolling, making appointments or checking referrals.
	<a href="#">Find a Claims Address</a> Find the right address for medical, pharmacy or dental claims.
	<a href="#">Search the FAQs</a> Find instant answers to the most frequently asked questions.
	<a href="#">Ask a Benefit Question</a> Send us your questions via email. We'll reply within 30 business days.
	<a href="#">File a Complaint</a> Learn how to file a complaint if you don't agree with a decision made about your benefit.
	<a href="#">Report Fraud and Abuse</a> Report any suspicious activity regarding your health care.

# USMC REUNIONS



ORGANIZATION/POC	DATE	PHONE	EMAIL/WEB
USMC Scout Sniper Association Bi-Annual Quantico, VA	18-20 August 2023	Tim Parkhurst 910-546-6046	<a href="https://scoutsniper.org">https://scoutsniper.org</a> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/USMCSSA">www.facebook.com/USMCSSA</a>
Force Recon Association Annual Reunion Inns of the Corps Quantico, VA	27-30 September 2023	Dave Jarvis (760) 716-3713	jarvisda77@gmail.com
TBS Class 5-1983 Echo Company 40th Anniversary Reunion Quantico and Old Town Alexandria, VA	6-8 October 2023	McBride (215)-208-9686 McLaughlin (757)-746-0299	TBS 5-83 Echo Company Reunions Facebook
Minefield Maintenance (MFM) Section Marine Barracks Guantanamo Bay, Cuba Leatherneck Bar Las Vegas, NV	13-15 October 2023	(928) 750-1369	Rjarchie.1371@gmail.com
Marine Air Transport Association (MCATA)	18-22 October 2023	(630) 251-2346	<a href="http://www.mcata.com">www.mcata.com</a> , <a href="mailto:president@mcata.com">president@mcata.com</a> <a href="mailto:bagsh18@gmail.com">bagsh18@gmail.com</a>
Marine Corps Musician Association Host Band: Marine Ban San Diego Pechanga Resort Casino Krista Hackler	19-23 October 2023	843-941-3693	aprilh5500@gmail.com
HMM-162 (Rein), Air Combat Element (ACE), 24 MAU, Beirut, Lebanon, John P. (Jack) Cress Jacksonville, NC	21-24 October 2023	(831) 229-6773	ace162beirut83@razzolink.com
TBS Class 3-67/41st OCC Arlington, VA	26-29 October 2023	(559) 273-9549	pdisario@comcast.net
ANGLICO Association Reunion Carnival Cruise Lines, Jack Olson. Joe L. Luque Cape Carnival, FL	30 October to 3 November	1-800-764-7419 1-219-552-5121 1-661-725-3415	Jackolson79@gmail.com Jlluque47@gmail.com
ANGLICO Association Biennial Reunion Ebassy Suites, Marine Corps Ball, Jack Olson, Joe L. Luque West Palm Beach, FL	30 October to 5 November	1-219-552-5121 1-661-725-3415	<a href="http://www.anglicoassociation.vet">www.anglicoassociation.vet</a> Jackolson79@gmail.com Jlluque47@gmail.com
Marine Corps Vietnam 3rd MarDiv 1965-1972 CAP/CAG Units 2023 Reunion Hilton Doubletree Riverfront Jacksonville, FL	8-13 November 2023	630-310-0013	Bulldog_8762@yahoo.com
Marine Corps Weather Service Reunion Billings, MO	16-21 June 2024	Kathy 252-342-8459, Dave 812-630-2099	kathy.donham@hotmail.com <a href="mailto:englertd@psci.net">englertd@psci.net</a>
TBS Class 7-83 Golf Co Col Steve Labadie, USMCR (Ret.) LtCol Jim Brader, USMCR (Ret.) Quantico, VA	8-10 March 2024		<a href="https://sites.google.com/view/tbs-7-83/home">https://sites.google.com/view/tbs-7-83/home</a>
Women Marines Association Convention Atlanta Hilton, Atlanta, GA	8-12 August 2024	Convention Treasurer 816-916-5812	<a href="mailto:WMANatPresident@womenmarines.org">WMANatPresident@womenmarines.org</a> <a href="https://www.womenmarines.org">https://www.womenmarines.org</a>
A - 6 Intruder (USMC/USN) San Diego, CA	9-13 April 2024	571-437-5912	<a href="http://IntruderAssociation.org">IntruderAssociation.org</a> Robert.weber51@gmail.com

Note to Reunion Planners: Send your reunion events as soon as possible to our organizational mailbox ([smb.manpower.mmsr6@usmc.mil](mailto: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 MCCS web site (<http://www.usmc-mccs.org/reunion/>) for information on how to organize your reunion and lists of upcoming events.



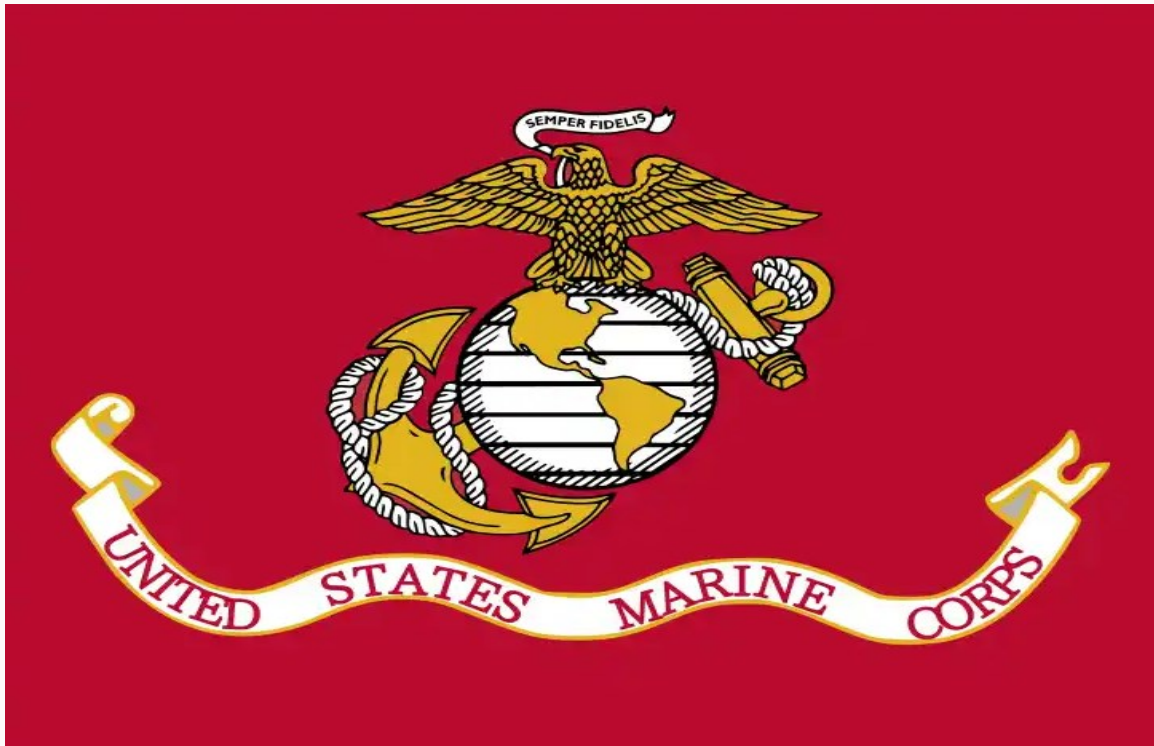
## 2023 MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS



Retiree Appreciation Days are held throughout the year at various installations across the United States and Europe. Retirees and their family members are offered information on benefits and service.

DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT
08-09 Sep\0830	Fort Leonard Wood, MO	573-596-6637\0947
09 Sep	Buckley, SFB, CO	720-847-6693
09 Sep\0800-1100	Camp Pendleton, CA	760-763-1779
09 Sep	Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA	570-615-7019
21 Sep\0830	Fort Detrick, MD	301-619-3357
23 Sep	Fort Drum, NY	315-772-6434
23 Sep	Camp Lejeune, NC	910-451-0287
25 Sep\0800	NAS, Lemoore, CA	559-998-4524
6 Oct\0830	JB Fort Meyers, Henderson Hall, VA	703-696-5948\3689
07 Oct\0800	Fort Campbell, KY	270-798-5280
07 Oct\0830-1300	JB Ellington-Houston, TX	281-935-6494\210-221-9904
13 Oct\0900-	USAG Vicenza, Italy	011-39-0444-71-4831
20 Oct\0930	Fort Knox, KY	502-624-7236
21 Oct	USAG-Schinnen, Netherlands	32-68-25-5581
21 Oct\1000	USAG Benelux, Belgium	011-32-65-32-6293\31-45-534-0260
21 Oct\0800	Fort Bragg, NC	910-396-5304
21 Oct\0900	Fort Polk, LA	337-531-0363
21 Oct\0800	JBSA Fort Sam Houston & Brooke AMC, TX	210-221-9004\9793
27 Oct\0900	Fort Belvoir, VA	703-806-4551
27 Oct\0930	Fort Rucker, AL	334-255-9124\9739
28 Oct\0900	Fort Hood, TX	254-287-5210
04 Nov\0900	Fort Gordon, GA	706-791-2654\4774

**Experience camaraderie and esprit de corps at a Retiree Appreciation Day. To view these events and others visit: [https://www.hostmtb.org/RADs\\_and\\_Other\\_Retiree-Veterans\\_Events.html#USA](https://www.hostmtb.org/RADs_and_Other_Retiree-Veterans_Events.html#USA).**



## HONORING OUR 2023 CENTENARIAN MARINES 100 YEARS IN THE MAKING

### *COLONEL*

Anderson, Edwin M. Jr. (1942-1983)  
Barton, Leroy C. (1942-1974)  
Cartoski, Edwin J. (1942-1983)  
Clark, Allen B. (1942-1972)  
Crall, George M. (1948-1983)  
Macquarrie, Warren L. (1942-1972)

### *LIEUTENANT COLONEL*

Antczak, Arthur J. (1942-1972)  
Jennings, William E. (1942-1983)  
Lewis, Elmer M. Jr. (1942-1969)  
McDonald, Roy H. Jr. (1942-1983)  
Overmyer, Gerald D. (1942-1972)

### *MAJOR*

Elliott, John M. (1943-1966)

### *CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER-4*

Augustus, Charles R. (1942-1983)

### *FIRST SERGEANT*

Ball, Eugene W. (1943-1967)

### *MASTER SERGEANT*

Humphrey, Laurence C. (1945-1971)  
Pointer, James A. (1947-1969)

### *GUNNERY SERGEANT*

Fanciullo, Lester J. (1942-1966)  
Shade, George L. (1943-1963)

### *STAFF SERGEANT*

Kunde, Alfred Jr. (1944-1965)  
McGale, Vincent J. (1942-1961)

### *SERGEANT*

Eno, Jeannette A. (1949-1957)

## Colonel Louis J. Schott 102 year-old Marine receives The Silver Star



Official Marine Corps Photo



Photo by FOX45 News Media



Photo by Baltimore Sun Media

Major General Ryan Heritage, Commander of Marine Corps Forces Cyberspace Command and Marine Corps Forces Space Command with HQ at Fort Meade, presents the Silver Star Medal at VFM Post 7472 Ellicott City, Maryland on 18 May 2023. Colonel Louis J. Schott, USMCR (Ret) was recognized for his actions during combat operations in Okinawa on 20 June, 1945. Colonel Schott was not able to attend the award ceremony in person, but his daughter Laurie Tyler accepted the award in his behalf.

# 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.

**MAJOR GENERAL**

MONAHAN, JOHN P.

Oct 90/Jul 23

**BRIGADIER GENERAL**

RUSSELL, EUGENE B.

May 84/May 23

**COLONEL**

BROWN, ROSS A.  
 BUNTON, MARK C.  
 DANDREA THOMAS M.  
 TELLES, JOHN JR.  
 WALTER, DAVID L.

Aug 92/Aug 22  
 Nov 95/Feb 23  
 Jul 80/Apr 23  
 Oct 84/May 23  
 Feb 10/Feb 22

**CAPTAIN**

BINGHAM, THOMAS F.  
 CECCHETTI, MARIO E.  
 CLARDY, BOBBIE J. SR  
 HARTKOPF, ALBERT I.  
 HEHNER, WALTER K. JR.  
 JEFFERY, HARRY D.  
 MASHBURN, LESTER E.  
 NICHOLAS, BILLY D.  
 PHILLIPS, ENNIST T. JR.  
 WALSH, KEVIN J.

Aug 75/Apr 23  
 Aug 71/Mar 22  
 Dec 80/Jun 22  
 Apr 74/May 22  
 May 70/Apr 23  
 Feb 70/Apr 23  
 Mar 72/Jun 22  
 Jan 71/Apr 23  
 May 72/Apr 23  
 Jul 93/Feb 23

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL**

KAISER, RUDOLPH D.  
 KING, BEN W.  
 MITCHELL, JAMES R.  
 TAYLOR, BAYARD V.

Aug 92/Sep 22  
 Aug 88/May 23  
 Aug 82/Oct 22  
 Sep 85/May 23

**SECOND LIEUTENANT**

LEE, JOHN V.

Feb 69/May 23

**CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4**

SMITH, JAMES J.  
 WHITE, JAMES E.

Oct 04/May 23  
 Sep 91/ Apr 23

**MAJOR**

ELLIS, BILLIE R.  
 OCONNOR, WILLIAM L.  
 POLLMAN, ANTHONY G.

Aug 77/May 23  
 Mar 83/Apr 23  
 Sep 15/Feb 23

**CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3**

SHOFF, STEPHEN M.

Sep 92/May 23



Continued from page 12

# 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.

<b>MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT</b>		<b>STAFF SERGEANT</b>	
KUYPER, KARL J.	Jun 08/May 23	COLLINS, JOHN L. JR.	Aug 98/May 23
LINDEN, ANDREW R.	Sep 98/May 23	HARPER, JAMES D.	Jun 92/Oct 20
SPARKS, KIRK D.	Apr 16/May 23	MEADOR, ROBERT L.	Dec 91/Apr 23
<b>FIRST SERGEANT</b>		NESSETH, THOMAS M.	Aug 95/Apr 23
DECKER, DONALD R.	Jan 83/Jan 22	OTINERU, SAMUEL N.	Nov 84/May 23
FLOYD, JAMES N.	Jul 74/Jul 22	PRICE, JIMMIE A.	May 76/Dec 22
WILLIAMSON, DONALD R.	Aug 82/May 23	RICHARDSON, VINCENT	Oct 88/Mar 22
<b>MASTER SERGEANT</b>		THOMPSON, MARCUS V.	Jun 97/Apr 23
DEAN, JERRY	Jan 09/Apr 22	<b>SERGEANT</b>	
DRURY, ARTHUR S.	Jan 85/Feb 21	MOORE, GALEN H. III	Oct 70/Oct 22
FIELD, AL JR	Jan 83/May 23	<b>CORPORAL</b>	
FERNANDEZ, ABRAHAM A.	Aug 95/Oct 22	DUGGAN, FERGUS P.	Dec 00/May 23
JONES, RALPH W.	Dec 85/May 23	ENDE, EDWARD G.	Apr 68/Jan 23
LANHAM, CARLYLE T.	Jun 78/Mar 23	<b>LANCE CORPORAL</b>	
LEADER, RONALD J.	May 84/Apr 23	DEMPSEY, JERRY B.	Nov 80/May 23
MAGNO, SIMPLICIO E.	May 72/July 22	SCULLY, DENNIS J.	Mar 69/Apr 23
RUFF, WILLIAM E.	Nov 78/Apr 23	TULLY, TERRENCE M.	Aug 69/Apr 23
SABO, ROY T.	Jan 77/Apr 23	<b>PRIVATE FIRST CLASS</b>	
SCHOOL, CHARLES S.	Dec 73/Feb 23	TOWNE, ALLAN B.	Sep 66/Apr 23
STARR, JOHN W. JR	Mar 79/Dec 22	<b>PRIVATE</b>	
STEPP, VERNON E.	Apr 89/Apr 23	COLLIN, MAURICE L.	Apr 69/May 23
TIPTON, PAUL F.	Jul 84/Apr 23		
WHITE, KENNETH J.	Jan 94/May 23		
<b>GUNNERY SERGEANT</b>			
ALLEN, DONALD L.	Jan 76/May 23		
ASHBROOK, GARY R.	Jan 77/Apr 23		
BRAGG, JEROME D.	Jul 88/May 23		
COCHRANE, WILFRED J. Jr.	Jun 05/Oct 18		
HANSON, EDWARD B.	Jun 80/May 23		
JACKSON, KELLY O.	Nov 04/Apr 23		
JAEGER, CHARLES F. II	Apr 86/Jan 22		
JOLLIE, ROBERT E.	Jan 80/Sep 22		
LAAMANN, SVEN E.	Oct 97/Apr 23		
REKOSIEWICZ, HENRY S.	Jul 74/Apr 23		
TAYLOR, NICK	May 04/Apr 23		
TOWERS, CLYDE JR.	Sep 71/May 23		
VEGA, RICARDO R.	Jul 90/Apr 23		
WALKER, TYRONE	Sep 00/May 23		
WILCOX, RALPH M.	Sep 59/Apr 23		
WILLIAMS, DANNY A.	Jun 92/Oct 22		
WILLIAMS, JOHN H.	Apr 74/May 22		



## Retired and Annuitant Pay Schedule

To help you plan for 2023 below is a list of the days you should expect to receive your retired or annuitant pay. Retired and annuitant pay is due on the first of the month. However, if the first falls on a weekend or holiday, retirees get paid on last business day of the prior month and annuitants get paid on the first business day of month. For example, payment to retirees for December 2023 will be paid on December 29, 2023. However, annuitants are scheduled to be paid on January 2, 2024. Please see the chart for each month in 2023.

Entitlement Month	Retired Pay Date	Annuitant Pay Date
July 2023	August 1, 2023	August 1, 2023
August 2023	September 1, 2023	September 1, 2023
September 2023	September 29, 2023	October 2, 2023
October 2023	November 1, 2023	November 1, 2023
November 2023	December 1, 2023	December 1, 2023
December 2023	December 29, 2023	January 2, 2024

### DFAS Customer Service

1-800-321-1080, M-F 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET

Need Help: <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/about/aboutus/customer-service/>

There are several ways to contact DFAS Retired and Annuitant Pay: online, via mail or fax, or by calling our Customer Care Center. Please note: DFAS does **not** have in-person service centers at any of our locations. Retirees and annuitants are encouraged to contact your branch of service retiree service organization for in-person assistance.

askDFAS: <https://www.dfas.mil/dfas/AskDFAS/>

DFAS Fax or Mail Forms: <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/forms/>

Print these forms and send the completed forms to DFAS following the instructions provided.

**Please note:** If you click on a form and you see a message that says "Please wait..." you will need to download the form to your computer or device before you can open and use it. Right click on the link to the form, select "Save link as..." and a popup box will appear to allow you to save the form. Once you open the form, you will need to click on "Enable All Features" in order to view and fill in the form.

**NOTE:** The forms for the Survivor Benefit Plan on this page are NOT the forms for the **2023 SBP Open Season**. Please visit our SBP Open Season special focus webpage at <https://www.dfas.mil/sbpopenseason23> to find the most up-to-date information and forms.

Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/faqs/>

## Pursue Financial Stability and Security by taking the Veteran Saves Pledge

By Francino Crowelle Jr. 24, April 2023



A healthy financial future isn't only about how much money you make, but how you manage it. Veteran Saves, which is part of the Consumer Federation of America's America Saves program, wants to help increase financial stability, savings and economic resilience among Veterans. Launching April 24, Veteran Saves provides resources, tools and information to help you make informed decisions about managing your money.

### Reduce financial stress

Those who use the resources found in Veteran Saves can pursue financial security by creating emergency savings, safe debt-to-income ratios and retirement accounts. Join the movement by taking the Veteran Saves pledge to save money, reduce debt and build wealth in the Veteran community.

By partnering with a variety of Veteran friendly organizations, the program provides you with access to easy-to-implement resources, strategies, tips and solutions that can help reduce financial stress, debt, homelessness, and/or help you open a bank account, if needed.

### Better banking resources

If you don't have a bank account, the Veterans Benefits Banking Program (VBBP) a VA-sponsored program started with the nonprofit Association of Military Banks of America (AMBA) can help connect you with participating banks or credit unions that understand Veterans' financial needs. Creating an account will allow you to receive any VA benefit payments through direct deposit, a safer alternative to paper checks or prepaid cards. Find a participating bank or credit union today at the Veterans Benefits Banking website <https://veteransbenefitsbanking.org>.

VBBP also provides a free consultation with a financial counselor through the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education® or a credit counselor from the National Foundation for Credit Counseling. These counselors work with Veterans to develop customized plans to meet their unique goals and needs.

Veterans are not required to participate in VBBP to access Veteran Saves. If you already have a bank account but are not using direct deposit, sign in or create a VA.gov account to change your direct deposit information. Take a step toward securing your financial future and visit [VeteranSaves.org](https://VeteranSaves.org) today!





## How to check your PACT Act claim status

By Veterans Benefits Administration 4, April 2023

Many Veterans, their families and survivors have filed claims related to a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, radiation and other toxic substances—the PACT Act. It also added more health conditions that VA will presume are caused by exposure to these substances making it easier for beneficiaries to access VA benefits and services.

You can easily check the status of your PACT Act claim once it has been submitted.

### How do I check the status of my PACT Act claim?

Sign into your va.gov account with your existing Login.gov, ID.me, DS Logon or My HealtheVet account. If you don't have any of these accounts, you can create a free Login.gov or ID.me account. Once you are signed into your account, simply follow these three steps to check the status of your PACT Act claim:

- Go to your “My VA” dashboard. You will find the link for this dashboard in the top right corner of the page once you're signed in.
- Scroll down to the “Track Claims” section. There, you'll see a summary of the latest status information for any open claims or appeals you may have.

**Click on the “View Status” button for a specific claim. You'll go to a page with more details about that claim's status and supporting evidence. Evidence may include documents like a doctor's report or medical test results. (Claim status tool FAQs can be found <https://www.va.gov/resources/claim-status-tool-faqs/>.)**

### What else can I learn about my PACT Act claim?

After you log in and follow the steps above, you can find out:

Where your claim, appeal or decision review is in the review process. (Learn what your claim status means <https://www.va.gov/resources/what-your-claim-status-means/>).

- Which documents and forms VA needs from you.
- Which documents have already been received from health care providers, government agencies and other sources.

**Details like your claim type, the date VA received your claim and the name of your representative.**

### What should I do if I need help filing a claim or have questions?

Veterans Service Officers are available to assist a Veteran or their survivor in filing claims, reviewing information or answering questions.

Find a Veterans Service Officer near you at VA's <https://benefits.va.gov/vso/varo.asp%20>.

### For more information

For further help, please call 1-800-827-1000 (TTY: 711) from Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET. To learn more about the PACT Act, visit: <https://www.va.gov/pact>.

Note: There is no deadline to apply for PACT Act benefits. If you file a PACT Act claim or submit an intent to file by August 9, 2023, however, you may receive benefits backdated to August 10, 2022, when the legislation was passed.





## TSP Automated Response System

**Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**

From a touch-tone telephone, you can find out the latest information about the TSP (such as share prices and rates of return), as well as information about your TSP account. You can also request certain account transactions. You will need your TSP account number and your 4-digit TSP Personal Identification Number (PIN). If you do not have your TSP account number, you may wish to have your most recent leave and earnings statement or pay stub available when speaking with an agent.

### Talk to a Participant Service Rep

**Available Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Eastern time**

Press 3 to speak to a Participant Service Representative (PSR) when calling the ThriftLine. PSRs handle questions about loans, contribution allocations, interfund transfers, designations of beneficiaries, and withdrawals. From the 50 States, including the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and Canada, call the following numbers toll free:

- **Thriftline Telephone: 1-TSP-YOU-FRST (1-877-968-3778)** **Note:** Call volume is highest on Monday and Tuesday mornings. You may experience longer wait times if you call on these days.
- **TDD: 1-TSP-THRIFT5 (1-877-847-4385)** (for hearing-impaired participants)
- **International callers** who cannot use the toll-free number should call **(404) 233-4400** (not toll free).



**MCAS Yuma**  
(928) 269-2262

**MCBCamp Pendleton**  
Pacific Views Lodge  
(760) 763-7805/7806/7807

**MCBCamp Pendleton**  
Ward Lodge  
(760) 725-5304

**MCAS Miramar**  
(858) 271-7111

**MCAGCC Twentynine Palms**  
Desert View  
(760) 830-6557

**MCAGCC Twentynine Palms**  
Mountain View  
(760) 830-1054

**MCB Hawaii**  
(808) 254-2806

**MCB Camp Lejeune**  
(910) 451-3041

**MCAS Beaufort**  
(843) 522-1663

**MCB Quantico**  
(703) 630-4444

**MCB Camp Butler Okinawa**  
Camp Courtney  
Phone from USA: 011-81-611-722-9578

**MCB Camp Butler Okinawa**  
Camp Foster  
Phone from USA: 011-81-611-745-2455

**MCB Camp Butler Okinawa**  
Camp Hansen  
Phone from USA: 011-81-611-723-4511

**MCS Iwakuni**  
Phone from USA: 011-81-611-827-79-3221

**Find out more regarding guest eligibility and rates at:** <http://www.innsforthecorps.com/index.html>

# USMC Retired Services Offices

## MCAS Yuma Arizona

<https://yuma.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/transition-readiness>

[geraldine.tirado@usmc.mil](mailto:geraldine.tirado@usmc.mil)

(928) 269-3159

## MCAGCC Twentynine Palms California

<http://mccs29palms.com/index.cfm/marine-family-programs/ppd/information-referral-with-relocation-services/>

[plmsppd@usmc.mil](mailto:plmsppd@usmc.mil)

(760) 830-6344

## MCAS Miramar California

<https://miramar.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/military-family-life/retired-affairs>

[sbmiramarmccs.iandr@usmc.mil](mailto:sbmiramarmccs.iandr@usmc.mil)

(858) 307-1428

## MCB Camp Pendleton California

<https://pendleton.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/retired-affairs>

[ernesto.bulli-cruz@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:ernesto.bulli-cruz@usmc-mccs.org)

(760) 725-5704

(760) 277-4643

## MCLB Barstow California

<https://barstow.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/military-family-life/information-referral>

[irr.mclbb@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:irr.mclbb@usmc-mccs.org)

(760) 577-6533

## MCRD San Diego California

<http://sandiego.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/retired-affairs>

[Perlita.rodriguez@usmc.mil](mailto:Perlita.rodriguez@usmc.mil)

(619) 524-5298/5732

## MCLB Albany Georgia

<http://albany.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/transition-readiness>

[raymond.breaux@usmc.mil](mailto:raymond.breaux@usmc.mil)

(229) 639-9122

## MCB Camp Lejeune North Carolina

<https://www.mcieast.marines.mil/Staff-Offices/Retired-Affairs/>

[luis.alers@usmc.mil](mailto:luis.alers@usmc.mil)

Luis J. Alers-Dejesus, (910) 451-0287

Fax: (910) 451-0677

## MCAS Cherry Point North Carolina

<https://cherrypoint.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/retired-affairs>

[omb.ppd@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:omb.ppd@usmc-mccs.org)

(252) 466-7149

## MCAS/MCRD South Carolina

<https://southcarolina.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/transition-readiness/transition-readiness-seminars-crmc>

MCRD (843) 228-4574

[bfrt\\_crmc\\_trs@usmc.mil](mailto:bfrt_crmc_trs@usmc.mil)

MCAS (843) 228-7701

## MCB Quantico Virginia

<https://quantico.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/transition-readiness>

[mccsquanticoppdregistrtrion@usmc.mil](mailto:mccsquanticoppdregistrtrion@usmc.mil)

(703) 784-2659

## MCB Camp SD Butler Okinawa Japan

<https://www.okinawa.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/retired-affairs>

[rao@okinawa.usmc-mccs.org](mailto:rao@okinawa.usmc-mccs.org)

## MCB Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii

<https://hawaii.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/transition-readiness>

[MCBH.TRP.INQUIRY.SMB@usmc.mil](mailto:MCBH.TRP.INQUIRY.SMB@usmc.mil)

(808) 257-7790

# Steps to Take When an Annuitant Dies

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

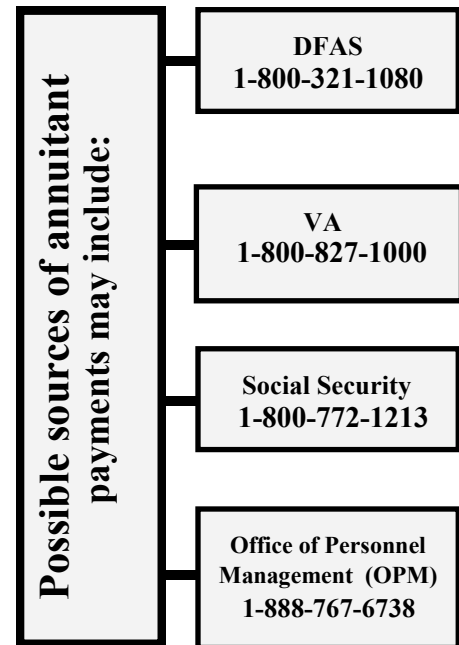
Prompt reporting of a deceased military annuitant’s death can help avoid delay and prevent possible financial hardship for the surviving family members or executors, who will be required to return any unearned payments of the decedent’s annuity pay if payment is erroneously received.

\*\*\*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 Compensation)  
[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)



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 **(800) 321-1080** 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.

Additional information from DFAS is available at [www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/Retiree-death/](http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/Retiree-death/).

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 (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 (800) 336-4649 or (703) 784-9310 to obtain the sites closest to you.
5. NOTIFY THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION at (800) SSA-1213 ([www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)) to apply for the \$255 death benefit, *if applicable*.
6. CONTACT THE VA at (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 (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.

## Agencies Providing Aid and Assistance To Surviving Spouses

Arlington National Cemetery: (703) 607-8000

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

Military Funeral Honors: (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: (800) 260-0218, [www.nmfa.org](http://www.nmfa.org)

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

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors: (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

(877) 907-8585

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

#### ARMED FORCES RECREATION CENTERS

[www.armymwr.com/travel/armed-forces-hotels-resorts](http://www.armymwr.com/travel/armed-forces-hotels-resorts)

- Edelweiss Lodge and Resort (Germany)  
(011-49) 8821-9440
- Hale Koa Hotel (Hawaii): (800) 955-0555

#### ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOMES (GULFPORT)

Gulfport, MS: (228) 897-4418

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

#### ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOMES (WASHINGTON)

Washington, DC: (202) 541-7501

#### AWARDS:

Marines who have been discharged, separated or retired on or before 1 January 2001 should submit their inquiry to:

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

### 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) 604-3434

<https://www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/bcncr/Pages/default.aspx>

### C

#### CAMP LEJEUNE NOTIFICATION REGISTRY

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

#### COLD WAR RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Attn: AHRC-PDP-A, Dept. 480

1600 Spearhead Division Ave.

Fort Knox, KY 40122-5408

Fax: (888) 276-9472 or (502) 613-9510

#### COMBAT-RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION

SECNAV CRSC Board

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

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

[usn.ncr.asstsecnavmrade.mbx.crsc@us.navy.mil](mailto:usn.ncr.asstsecnavmrade.mbx.crsc@us.navy.mil)

<http://www.secnav.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

<https://nrd.gov/resource/detail/8432677/The+U.S.+National+Archives+%26+Records+Administration>; [www.archives.gov/st-louis](http://www.archives.gov/st-louis)

[The+U.S.+National+Archives+%26+Records+Administration](https://nrd.gov/resource/detail/8432677/The+U.S.+National+Archives+%26+Records+Administration); [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

(800) 268-3710; [smb.manpower.mmrp-10@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmrp-10@usmc.mil)

#### DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

(888) 332-7411, [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil)

U.S. and OCONUS: (216) 522-5955, Fax: (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

#### Federal Employee Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP)

(877) 888-FEDS ((877) 888-3337)

[www.BENEFEDS.com/military](http://www.BENEFEDS.com/military)

#### Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP)

(800) LTC-FEDS ((800) 582-3337)

<https://www.ltcfeds.com>

### M

#### MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION

715 Broadway St., Quantico, VA 22134

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

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

- **Leatherneck Magazine**

(888) 237-7683; Fax: (703) 640-0823

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

- **Marine Corps Gazette**

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

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

#### MARINE BARRACKS WASHINGTON



## Directory Assistance Pages

### MARINE CORPS HERITAGE FOUNDATION

1775 Semper Fidelis Way, Triangle, VA 22172  
(703) 640-7965 OR (800) 397-7585; [info@marineheritage.org](mailto:info@marineheritage.org)  
<https://www.marineheritage.org/>

### MARINE CORPS HISTORY DIVISION

Marine Corps University  
2044 Broadway Street, Quantico, VA 22134-5001  
(703) 432-4874, <https://www.history.division@usmcu.edu>

### MARINE CORPS JUNIOR ROTC TECOM (C46JR)

1019 Elliot Rd, 2034 Barnett Ave, Room 200, Quantico, VA  
22134-5001 (703) 784-3706; <https://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  
(800) 268-3710, (703) 784-3930/4646/5616

### MARINE CORPS RESERVE ASSOCIATION

3619 Richmond Hwy, Suite 115  
Stafford, VA 22554-7771, (877) 289-8780, (703) 289-1204

### 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  
(888) 533-4558; Fax: (314) 538-4571

**MEDICARE:** (800) 633-4227; <https://www.medicare.gov>

## N

### NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS

1775 Semper Fidelis Way, Triangle, VA 22172  
(877) 653-1775; <https://www.usmcmuseum.com>

### NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER

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

### NAVY LODGE WORLDWIDE RESERVATIONS CENTER

(800) 628-9466; <https://www.navy-lodge.com>

### NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY

875 N. Randolph Road Street, Suite 225, Arlington, VA 22203  
(800) 654-8364; <http://www.nmcrs.org/a/homepage>

## Q

### QUANTICO NATIONAL CEMETERY

(703) 221-2183; <https://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/army-echoes>
- **Coast Guard Evening Colors:** <https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Human-Resources-CG-1/Pay-and-Personnel-Center-PPC/>
- **Navy Shift Colors:** <https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Media-Center/Publications/Shift-Colors/>

### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

(800) 772-1213; <https://www.ssa.gov>

### SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN

<https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/provide/sbp>

## T

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

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

- **East:** (800) 444-5445; <https://www.humanamilitary.com/east/>
- **West:** (844) 866-9378; <https://www.tricare-west.com>
- **Overseas:** (888) 777-8343; <https://www.tricare-overseas.com>
- **Health Beneficiary Counseling Assistance Coordinator:** <https://www.tricare.mil/bcacdcao>

**TRICARE for LIFE:** (866) 773-0404; <https://www.tricare4u.com>

### TRICARE Network Pharmacy Program

(877) 363-1303;  
<https://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/index.shtml>

**TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery:** (877) 363-1296;  
<https://tricare.mil/homedelivery>

## U

**UNIFORM SUPPORT CENTER:** (800) 368-4088;  
Fax your DD 214 to (800) 551-6289 before placing order.

## V

**VA:** (800) 827-1000; <https://www.va.gov>

**VA EDUCATION:** (888) 442-4551; <https://www.gibill.va.gov>

**VA LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAMS:**  
(800) 669-8477; <https://www.insurance.va.gov>

**VA SGLI/VGLI:** (800) 419-1473

**VA STATUS OF HEADSTONES AND MARKERS:**  
(800) 697-6947

HEADQUARTERS, U.S. MARINE CORPS (MMSR-6)  
JAMES WESLEY MARSH CENTER  
3280 RUSSELL ROAD  
QUANTICO, VA 22134-5103

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### WHO TO CONTACT:

**MMSR-2:** (703) 784-9322/23 Enlisted  
(703) 784-9324/25 Officer



#### *Active Duty Separations and Retirements*

- **Officer**  
[smb.manpower.mmsr2o@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmsr2o@usmc.mil)
- **Enlisted**  
[smb.manpower.mmsr2e@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmsr2e@usmc.mil)

**MMSR-4:** (703) 784-9308/09/21  
*Disability Separations and Retirements*  
[smb.manpower.mmsr4@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmsr4@usmc.mil)

**MMSR-5:** (703) 784-9306/07  
Fax: (703) 784-9834  
*Inactive Reserve Separations and Retirements*  
[smb.manpower.mmsr5@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmsr5@usmc.mil)

**MMSR-6:** (703) 784-9311/10; 1-800-336-4649  
Fax: (703) 784-9834  
*Retired Services and Pay*

- Address Changes (Note: Annuitants must call DFAS)
- Identification Cards
- Semper Fidelis
- Survivor Benefit Plan

[smb.manpower.mmsr6@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmsr6@usmc.mil)

