Montford Point Marines Honored, Laid to Rest
Marines Corps News 9 February 2024

On the mornings of February 5 and 8, 2024, two Montford Point Marines, BGen Albert Bryant Sr. and PFC. John Henry Chaney, were laid to rest. Bryant was buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, in plot 7-A alongside American legends such as Joe Louis and James Doolittle, while Chaney was buried next to his wife at John Wesley United Methodist Church Cemetery in Clarksburg, Maryland.

Bryant and Chaney were both drafted into the military in 1943, beginning their service at Montford Point in Jacksonville, North Carolina. Both men joined the ranks of the legendary Montford Point Marines, the first Black Americans to earn the title of United States Marine.

Between 1942 and 1949, 19,168 Black Marines trained at Montford Point, with almost 13,000 of those Marines going on to fight in the Pacific Theater during World War II. Companies of Montford Point Marines fought at Saipan, Tinian, Guam, Peleliu, Okinawa, and Iwo Jima. The Montford Point Marines, in their very first battle, were so effective the then-Commandant of the Marine Corps LtGen Alexander Vandegrift stated: “The Negro Marines are no longer on trial. They are Marines, period.” Both Bryant and Chaney fought at the harrowing Battle of Iwo Jima and witnessed the raising of the American flag on Mount Suribachi.

“Without (Bryant’s) service, I could never have become a General.” BGen Melvin Carter, the deputy chief of Computer Network Operations at the National Security Agency

After the war, Bryant attended Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana, becoming a pharmacist. He continued his military service as an officer in the Army Reserve, rising to the rank of Brigadier General, the highest rank achieved by a Montford Point Marine.

After Chaney's return from the Pacific, he worked as a bricklayer until 1953, when he went to work at the State Highway Administration. Additionally, he started a business: Chaney and Sons Refuse Trash Company, which he ran until he sold the company in 1974. After selling his business and retiring from the State Highway Administration, Chaney spent his time playing basketball, being with his family, and devoting himself to his local church as an usher and choir member.

On June 28, 2012, Chaney, Bryant, and 366 former Montford Point Marines received the Congressional Gold Medal from members of congress and leaders of the Marine Corps.

Chaney and Bryant were laid to rest surrounded by hundreds of their family and friends, as well as active-duty and retired Marines. BGen Melvin Carter, the deputy chief of Computer Network Operations at the National Security Agency, attended Bryant’s funeral and credited men like Bryant and Chaney for paving the way for all Black Americans to serve.

“Without (Bryant’s) service, I could never have become a General,” said Carter.

Bryant is survived by his wife of 75 years, five children, and his many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Chaney is survived by his sister, his 12 children, 35 grandchildren, 42 great-grandchildren, and 12 great-great-grandchildren.

“He was so proud of his service,” said Mary Chaney, daughter of John Henry Chaney. “He was so glad to have been in that situation because it helped him grow, and it helped him learn how to treat people despite how he was treated.”

The Montford Point Marines are honored and remembered for their part in desegregating the Marine Corps, for their courageous service during the Pacific Campaign, and their contributions to the furtherance of equality in all of American society.

Semper Fidelis Newsletter for Retired Marines
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 https://www.militaryonesource.mil. Service members, veterans, and their loved ones can also call the Military and Veterans Crisis Line at 988 and Press 1, chat at https://www.veteranscrisisline.net, or text to 838255.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is available to anyone at 988.
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. MARINE CORPS - General Alfred M. Gray Jr., the 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps, died March 20 at his home in Alexandria, Virginia. He was 95. General Gray was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 39 years, Jan, who passed away January 30, 2020.

Born June 22, 1928, in Point Pleasant Beach, N.J., Gray enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1950 after dropping out of college to fight in Korea, serving as a radio operator with the Amphibious Reconnaissance Platoon, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific.

Over the next 41 years, Gray established a legacy of heroism in combat, deploying eight times to lead Marines in dangerous missions – several of them clandestine. Gray earned the distinction of leading the first independent ground operations by a Marine unit in Vietnam while commanding a composite unit of signals intelligence Marines supported by attached infantry. During his several deployments to Vietnam, Gray pioneered modern signals intelligence collection methods and developed operational employment concepts in which intelligence drove follow-on operations. His lifelong advocacy for such techniques earned him admittance to the National Security Agency’s Hall of Honor in 2008 for lifetime achievements in the area of signals intelligence. His early work and establishment of two units, formed the nucleus of what is known today as the Marine Cryptologic Support Battalion.

Commanding at every operational level from 40-person platoon to 40,000-strong Marine Amphibious Force, General Gray reached the pinnacle of Marine Corps leadership when Navy Secretary James Webb selected him to serve as the 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

While Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Gray established an unrivaled reputation as a champion of academics and professional education. He federated five of the Corps’ formal schools for officers and senior enlisted leaders under the umbrella command of a new Marine Corps University. Hundreds of Marine leaders earn accredited degrees through the university each year as they complete courses of study for promotion and advancement. For Marines of all ranks, Gray implemented the requirement to read at least two books each year from a list he hand-selected. The Commandant’s Reading List remains a fixture of Marine Corps professional development.

Gray also led the Marine Corps through the adoption of the doctrinal warfighting concept that serves as the distinguishing institutional and operational philosophy to this day. The Corps’ embrace of maneuver warfare doctrine earned it numerous battlefield successes from the 1980s through the modern day. Maneuver warfare continues to be studied not just by U.S. Marines, but by foreign militaries and even civilian business schools around the world. Maneuver warfare emphasizes adaptability, decisiveness, and initiative based on common operational understanding.
Throughout his career, Gray’s experience as a junior Marine and a noncommissioned officer anchored his leadership philosophy. In an address to a graduating U.S. Naval Academy class, he advised the newly commissioning officers, "If you come and join my Marines, I want you to know that your 'number one' job is to take care of the men and women you are privileged to lead."

Gray stated in interviews that his best day in the Marine Corps was the day he promoted to corporal and joined the ranks of noncommissioned officers.

"I think as excited as I ever was as a young Marine ... my proudest day probably was when I got to put corporal on my return address on the envelope [home]. That was a very, very good day."

Gray left his mark in other ways as well. When visitors to the Pentagon observe the portraits of the Corps’ Commandants hanging in the Marine Corps hallway, the tidy row of officers bedecked in Marine Corps Dress Blues and gleaming medals is abruptly disrupted by the face of General Gray smiling back at them as he stands proudly in his Camouflage Utility Uniform. As was his reputation, Gray sought to deliver an enduring message. He adamantly instructed all Marines that “every Marine is, first and foremost, a rifleman. All other conditions are secondary.”

This warrior mindset manifested itself in the areas of training and combat readiness as well. Gray directed changes to Marines’ readiness to fight “in any clime or place,” as the service’s hymn reads. Marine formations trained to conduct large-scale maneuvers in desert and cold-weather environments, as unit leaders implemented the tenets of maneuver warfare. This transformation in the aftermath of the Vietnam War-era included the development of a maritime special operations capability, emphasis on the education of leaders, establishment of the Marine Corps University, and development of a long-range desert operations capability.

From their first date in September of 1969, General Gray and his wife Jan were separable only by fidelity to Corps and duty. After a brief engagement, then-Major General Gray and Jan married on July 27, 1980, in Burlington, Vermont. Throughout their marriage of nearly 40 years, Mrs. Gray gave her time and efforts unselfishly to the Marine Corps. She was best known for her dedication to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, the Marine Corps Scholarship Program, the Navy Wifeline Program, the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program, and the families of casualties from the Beirut Bombing. In 1985, she was lauded with the Marine Corps League Distinguished Service Award. In 1991, the Department of the Navy bestowed on her its Distinguished Public Service Award, recognizing her years of dedication to the men, women and families of the Department of the Navy.

After his military retirement, General Gray served as board chairman and CEO for several public and private companies and was a consultant for several organizations in national and international industry and government. He served on the Defense Science Board; Defense Special Operations Advisory Group; National Security Agency Science Advisory Board; National Reconnaissance Office Gold Team; Defense Operations Support Office Advisory Team; and as director of the Advanced Concept Demonstration Technology for Combat in the Littorals. General Gray was also chairman emeritus of the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund and America Fund, which help take care of wounded veterans and their families. In addition, he served as chancellor of the Marine Military Academy and chairman of the U.S. Marine Youth Foundation, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies, and the Chairman of the Board of the Norwich University Advanced Research Institute.

A public visitation, organized by the estate of General Gray, will be held from 1400-1600 and 1800-2000, April 7, 2024 at Demaine Funeral Home, 520 S. Washington St, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, 703-549-0074. The uniform for the April 7 visitation is Dress Blue/White Bravo with cloth belt, white gloves, and mourning band. There will be an open-to-the-public Full Honors Funeral Ceremony in the National Capital Region at a location and time to be determined. Burial services at Arlington National Cemetery will follow the funeral ceremony. In lieu of flowers, General and Mrs. Gray wish for donations to any of the following charitable organizations:

- Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund
- Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation
- Marine Youth Fitness Foundation
- Marine Corps University Foundation
- Marine Corps Heritage Foundation
- Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation
- Hope for the Warriors
- Toys For Tots
- Carolina Museum of the Marine
- Marine Corps Association
- Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society
May 13, 2022 - Marine Barracks Washington
Marines with the Silent Drill Platoon execute their “long line” sequence during a Friday Evening Parade at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C. The hosting official was General Eric Smith, the 36th Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, and the guests of honor were General Thomas R. Morgan (Ret.), 21st Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Walter E. Boomer (Ret.), 24th Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Terrence Dake (Ret.), 27th Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Robert Magnus (Ret.), 30th Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, General John M. Paxton Jr (Ret.), 33rd Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Mark Morales)
United States Navy Blue Angels
2024 Air Show Schedule

For information about individual air shows, please go to each air show's official website. For more information about the Blue Angels, including the 2024 air show schedule, visit [http://www.blueangels.navy.mil](http://www.blueangels.navy.mil).


For more photos and video from Navy Blue Angels, visit [www.DVIDSHUB.net/NFDS](http://www.DVIDSHUB.net/NFDS).

July
27-28 Fargo, ND

August
03-04 Seattle, WA
10-11 Chicago, IL
17-18 Colorado Springs, CO
24-25 Wichita, KS
31 Cleveland, OH

September
01-02 Cleveland, OH
14-15 Owensboro, KY
21-22 NAS Oceana, VA
28-29 MCAS Miramar, CA

October
05-06 Reno, NV
12-13 San Francisco, CA
19-20 NAS Jacksonville, FL
26-27 Houston, TX

November
01-02 NAS Pensacola, FL
WASHINGTON — Today, the Department of Veterans Affairs issued a proposed rule outlining plans to expand the locations and time frames for which VA presumes exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides. If this proposed rule becomes final, VA will implement a new presumption of exposure to locations where herbicides were tested, used, or stored outside of Vietnam. Specifically, this proposed rule would add locations in the United States (full list of US locations where Agent Orange was tested or stored: https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/locations/tests-storage/usa.asp), (Canada: https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/locations/tests-storage/outside-vietnam.asp), and (India: https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/locations/tests-storage/outside-vietnam.asp) to the existing presumptives for Agent Orange in Vietnam, Cambodia, Johnson Atoll, Guam, American Samoa, Korea, Laos, and Thailand.

A presumption of exposure means that VA automatically assumes that Veterans who served in certain locations were exposed to certain toxins. Presumptives lower the burden of proof required to receive disability benefits, helping Veterans get the benefits they deserve as quickly as possible. This expansion of presumptives will help Veterans who served in the specified locations receive health care and benefits for certain cancers and chronic conditions. To be eligible, a Veteran must have served in the identified location(s) during a specific time period and currently have a condition(s) presumptively associated with herbicide exposure.

Delivering world-class health care and benefits to toxic-exposed Veterans is a top priority for VA and the Biden-Harris Administration. As a part of President Biden’s pledge to serve Veterans with military toxic exposures, over the past few years, VA has expanded presumptive service connection for more than hundreds of health conditions related to toxic exposures under the PACT Act – the largest expansion of Veteran care and benefits in generations. Thanks to this historic action, VA is delivering more care and more benefits to more Veterans than ever before in U.S. history.

“This proposed change would make it easier for Veterans exposed to herbicides who served outside Vietnam to access the benefits they so rightly deserve,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “Our goal is to provide every Veteran – of every era – with the VA health care and benefits they deserve, and this is another step in the right direction.”

Veterans who want to file an initial claim for a herbicide-related disability can visit VA’s website: https://www.va.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/, use VA Form 21-526EZ, Application for Disability Compensation and Related Compensation Benefits: https://www.va.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/, or work with a VA-recognized Veterans Service Organization to assist with the application process. Veterans may also contact their state Veterans Affairs Office. Survivors can file claims for benefits based on the Veteran’s service if the Veteran died from at least one of the recognized presumptive herbicide diseases.


For more information about the changes, visit The Federal Register: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/02/12/2024-02590/updating-va-adjudication-regulations-for-disability-or-death-benefit-claims-related-to-exposure-to.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATION/POC</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
<th>EMAIL/WEB</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USMC/Combat Helicopter &amp; Tiltrotor Association, Washington, DC</td>
<td>30 July - 4 August 2024</td>
<td>703-463-6192</td>
<td><a href="mailto:skatz@popasmopkpc.com">skatz@popasmopkpc.com</a>, <a href="mailto:admin@popasmoke.com">admin@popasmoke.com</a>, <a href="http://www.popasmoke.com">www.popasmoke.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Company 3/7 Vietnam 40th Reunion, Airport Hilton, Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td>31 July - 4 August 2024</td>
<td>David Ray 602-860-8932</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined Action Group, 3RD MAF CAP UNITS (1965-71), Hilton, Arlington, VA 22202</td>
<td>6-10 August 2024</td>
<td>Eric Webb 479-276-9122</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dfroberts555@gmail.com">dfroberts555@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women Marines Association Convention, Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>8-12 August 2024</td>
<td>816-916-5812</td>
<td><a href="mailto:WMANatPresident@womenmarines.org">WMANatPresident@womenmarines.org</a>, <a href="https://www.womenmarines.org">https://www.womenmarines.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMM-262 (Rein) Officers/Pilots (1988-1991), Hilton Garden Inn Downtown, Pensacola, FL</td>
<td>20-22 August 2024</td>
<td>Col Fred Geier 1-352-209-2519</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fgeier3360@comcast.net">fgeier3360@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Marine Division Association, 77th Annual Reunion San Antonio, TX</td>
<td>18-25 August 2024</td>
<td>Rod Johnson 504-202-8552</td>
<td><a href="http://www.montfordpointmarines.org">http://www.montfordpointmarines.org</a>, <a href="mailto:vice_president@montfordpointmarines.org">vice_president@montfordpointmarines.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Montford Point Marine Association Inc Convention, Jacksonville, NC</td>
<td>21-24 August 2024</td>
<td>Travis &amp; Grace Fryzwicz 732-921-1968</td>
<td><a href="mailto:travisfry@gmail.com">travisfry@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3D BN, 4th Marines Doubletree, Herndon, VA</td>
<td>21-25 August 2024</td>
<td>Broussard 225-281-6838, Morgan 760-277-7671</td>
<td><a href="mailto:raybroussardjr@gmail.com">raybroussardjr@gmail.com</a>, <a href="mailto:morganjos607@gmail.com">morganjos607@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977 Louisiana (Bayou) State Platoon 3065 (Swamp Rats), San Diego, CA</td>
<td>5-7 September 2024</td>
<td>Col Chuck McGarigle 609-291-9617, or 609-284-2935</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Col_of_mar_rex@comcast.net">Col_of_mar_rex@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Air Base Squadrons-49, Earlville, MD</td>
<td>7 September 2024</td>
<td>Col Chuck McGarigle 609-291-9617, or 609-284-2935</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Col_of_mar_rex@comcast.net">Col_of_mar_rex@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps Motor Transport Association, Reno, NV</td>
<td>15-19 September 2024</td>
<td>George Hanlin 301-514-1087</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery Adjust, Marine Artillery Association (All era’s), Savannah, GA</td>
<td>18-22 September 2024</td>
<td>Ed Peterson 732-754-8755</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ed66451@aol.com">ed66451@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recruiting Station Baltimore, MD, Dorsey, MD</td>
<td>21-22 September 2024</td>
<td>Ed Wakeley Matt Cucchinelli 315-982-1321</td>
<td><a href="mailto:RSBalRrReunion@outlook.com">RSBalRrReunion@outlook.com</a>, <a href="http://tinyurl.com/BalRrReunion">http://tinyurl.com/BalRrReunion</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marine Corps Engineer Association (MCEA) Awards, North Shore Hotel, Myrtle Beach, SC</td>
<td>26-28 September 2024</td>
<td>931-307-9094</td>
<td><a href="mailto:treasurer@marcorengasn.org">treasurer@marcorengasn.org</a>, <a href="http://www.marcorengasn.org">www.marcorengasn.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Air Transport Association (MCATA), Courtyard Marriott, Kemah, TX</td>
<td>16-20 October 2024</td>
<td>CWO4 Harshbarger 630-251-2346</td>
<td><a href="mailto:president@mcata.com">president@mcata.com</a>, <a href="mailto:bagsh18@gmail.com">bagsh18@gmail.com</a>, or <a href="http://www.mcata.com">www.mcata.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USMC A-4 Skyhawksers Reunion, Hilton and Holiday Inn Resorts, Pensacola Beach, FL</td>
<td>11-13 November 2024</td>
<td>Mark Williams 702-778-5010</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Rogerwilco14@gmail.com">Rogerwilco14@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E Company 2/7, Vietnam Veterans Tucson, AZ</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>William Dyer 904-504-1582</td>
<td><a href="mailto:parthree@comcast.net">parthree@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Fighter Foray Reunion, Hyatt Regency, Dallas, TX</td>
<td>14-18 October 2026</td>
<td>Donnie Herrin 214-632-5124, William Pratt 210-441-9889, Rick Packard 352-988-0410</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dherrin@vmfreedomroom.com">dherrin@vmfreedomroom.com</a>, <a href="mailto:prattw@gmail.com">prattw@gmail.com</a>, <a href="mailto:Packard.rick@gmail.com">Packard.rick@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

Semper Fidelis Newsletter for Retired Marines
2024 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 Aug</td>
<td>Rosemount, MN (Twin Cities)</td>
<td>763-350-1653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Aug/1000</td>
<td>NRNW Naval Base Kitsap, WA</td>
<td>360-315-3052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Aug</td>
<td>Des Moines, IA</td>
<td>515-577-4966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Sep/0700-1300</td>
<td>Camp Pendleton, CA</td>
<td>760-725-5704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Sep</td>
<td>Fort McCoy, WI</td>
<td>608-388-3716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-14 Sep</td>
<td>Fort Leonard Wood, MO</td>
<td>573-596-6637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Sep</td>
<td>Fort Detrick, MD</td>
<td>301-619-9948</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-20 Sep</td>
<td>Fort Sill, OK</td>
<td>580-442-4645</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Sep</td>
<td>Sefridge ANGB, MI</td>
<td>586-239-5580</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Sep</td>
<td>Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA</td>
<td>570-615-7019</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Sep</td>
<td>Fort Campbell, KY</td>
<td>270-798-5280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Sep</td>
<td>Fort Drum, NY</td>
<td>315-772-6434</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Sep/0800</td>
<td>NAS Lemoore, CA</td>
<td>559-998-4524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Sep</td>
<td>Fort Gregg-Adams, VA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Sep/0900-1400</td>
<td>MCI-East, Camp Lejeune, NC</td>
<td>910-451-0287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-11 Oct</td>
<td>Fort Bliss, TX</td>
<td>915-568-5204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Oct</td>
<td>JB Ellington, Houston, TX</td>
<td>210-221-9004/9793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Oct</td>
<td>USAG Benelux (SHAPE) Belgium</td>
<td>+32-68-25-5581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Oct</td>
<td>USAG Benelux Brunssum (Netherlands)</td>
<td>+31-45-534-0260</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Oct</td>
<td>Rock Island, IL</td>
<td>563-508-5123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Oct</td>
<td>JB San Antonio (Fort Sam Houston), TX</td>
<td>210-221-9004/9793</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Oct/0730</td>
<td>NOSC, Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td><a href="mailto:metrojrad@gmail.com">metrojrad@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Nov</td>
<td>JBSA-Randolph, TX</td>
<td>210-652-6680</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Nov/0900 (Virtual)</td>
<td>NAVBASE San Diego, CA</td>
<td>619-556-7412</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Experience camaraderie and esprit de corps at a Retiree Appreciation Day.
Pay Schedule

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entitlement Months</th>
<th>Retired Pay Date</th>
<th>Annuitant Pay Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 2024</td>
<td>August 1, 2024</td>
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<td>August 30, 2024</td>
<td>September 3, 2024</td>
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<td>September 2024</td>
<td>October 1, 2024</td>
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<td>October 2024</td>
<td>November 1, 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 2024</td>
<td>November 29, 2024</td>
<td>December 2, 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2024</td>
<td>December 31, 2024</td>
<td>January 2, 2025</td>
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Message from MMSR-4  
(Disability Separations and Retirements)

MMSR-4, Separations and Retirement Section has evolved in this last quarter of 2023, and we believe these changes will support a more efficient and user-friendly experience. You’re not alone if you’ve never heard about TDRL /PDRL, which is the acronym for Temporary Disability Retired List, or Permanent Retired List a program designated by Title 10, USC and Secretary of the Navy to support the active-duty Marines whose career is cut short due to disability or illness, where the diagnosis is not stable enough to make a permanent disposition.

We’ve added two new employees with over twenty years in the Department of Navy’s Disability Evaluation system, while we said farewell to another valued employee, who will be an asset to another section. We are prepared to process appointment notifications, arrange travel for those evaluations, when necessary, and deliver retirement documents to our community.

MMSR-4 has taken steps to tailor the process in the form of an informational brochure that is designed to be a guide for your travel convenience and getting reimbursement for travel. The intention is to make scheduling your appointments with the Military Treatment Facilities (MTP) easier and to ensure you’re well prepared when you arrive.

If you are assigned to the TDRL, a Periodic Physical Evaluation (PPE) is a vital step in determining your final disposition from the Physical Evaluation Board; permanent retirement or discharge with severance pay. You can also be found fit to come back on active duty as another option. Failure to report for a PPE when ordered to do so may result in your benefits being altered, therefore, attending all appointments is critical.

Reimbursement for the cost of transportation, meals, and lodging incurred while in the execution of your orders is what we do. Send all correspondence and concerns regarding TDRL to the SMB mailbox for TDRL.

SMB.MANPOWER.TDRL@USMC.MIL

WHAT TO BRING?

Identification is required. If you have not already, obtain your military retirement ID card. You will need Identification, military ID is preferred, to ensure you’re able to get on base, where most MTF’s are. If you have recently changed your name due to marriage, divorce or court order, ensure your orders and ID match!

Documentation. “The service member shall provide to the examining physician, for submission to the PEB, copies of all medical records (civilian, VA, and all military medical records) documenting treatment since the last TDRL reevaluation” (SECNAV 1850.4). To ensure your medical status is captured entirely, your provider will need you to fill in the gaps; What, if any, medical treatment have you had since you retired that is not captured within the Department of Veteran Affairs or an MTF. Inpatient stays? Outpatient procedures? Any changes to your diagnosis/condition should be documented. Your provider will use your medical documentation to update your TDRL status. Bring all medical documentation to your appointment. X-rays, MRI’s and CT scans are not permitted; however, you can bring the narrative summary from those examinations.

Additionally, ensure that you bring a copy of the orders directing you to report.

Funds. Have enough money for food, travel to get to and from the appointment, back to the air terminal, and for your lodging arrangements. Advanced Travel pay is not authorized.
HOW TO ENSURE YOUR TRAVEL CLAIM IS FILED CORRECTLY

Travel via privately owned conveyance is authorized in conjunction with TDRL travel orders, not to exceed the constructive cost of common carrier transportation, as determined in JTR. Contact MMSR-4 for details.

Travel greater than 400 miles one-way or 800 miles roundtrip must be conducted via air travel on a government contracted carrier. HQMC will not reimburse mileage for a distance greater than 400 miles. A rental car or cash advance is not authorized in conjunction with TDRL orders. A nonmedical attendant is not authorized without prior approval from CMC MMSR-4. Dependents may travel at no expense to the government. Children may NOT accompany you to your appointment. For reimbursement, submit travel claims to mailbox: SMB.MANPOWER.TDRL@USMC.MIL

For air travel, distances greater than 400 miles one way, TDRL Section requires minimum ten (10) business days lead time to complete reservation / confirmation. Notification outside of the 10 (ten) business day window will result in appointment cancellation / rescheduling.

VERIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT

When you arrive at the MTF notify the PEBLO of your arrival and departure. A Verification of Appointment document will be completed. The Verification of Appointment (VOA) is part of your travel claim for reimbursement. The PEBLO will send the VOA to MMSR-4, TDRL.

POST PPE APPOINTMENT:
Completed DD Form 1351.

- All receipts for expenses (if applicable) that exceed $75
- Transportation receipts (Uber, Lyft,)
- Hotel – Please ensure that your receipt shows a Zero (00.00 ) balance.

MMSR-4 Contacts

Mr. Jason R. Fenton:  Jason.r.fenton.civ@usmc.mil

Staff Sergeant Mayra Arambulajamie:  Mayra.arambulajamie@usmc.mil

Ms. Brenda L. Musselman:  Brenda.Laudermusselm@usmc.mil

Ms. Tammishia K. Condell:  Tammishia.K.YoungerCondell.civ@usmc.mil

Ms. Shantay R. Steward:  Shantay.r.stewart.civ@usmc.mil

SMB Box:  SMB.MANPOWER.TDRL@USMC.MIL, or call (703) 784-9308/09/21
We Need You

Retired?

Have a little extra time on your hands?

The Retired Services/Activities Offices at many Marine Corps Installations are facing manpower and resource challenges and need local volunteers to lend their knowledge and experience, and to be a valuable resource to retired Marines needing assistance in your community.

Reach out to your local RSO/RAO and see what opportunities await you. Installation information and POCs are listed on page 14.

Once a Marine, Always a Marine
USMC Retired Services Offices

MCAS Yuma Arizona
http://yuma.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/transition-readiness
geraldine.tirado@usmc.mil
(928) 269-3159

MCAGCC Twentynine Palms California
http://29palms.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/retired-affairs
brittany.rising@usmc.mil
(760) 830-6344

MCAS Miramar California
smbmiramarmccs.jandr@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
(760) 725-5704
(760) 277-4643

MCLB Barstow California
https://barstow.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/retired-affairs
irr.mclbb@usmc-mccs.org
(760) 577-6675

MCRD San Diego California
http://sandiego.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/retired-affairs
Perlita.rodriguez@usmc.mil
(619) 524-5298

MCLB Albany Georgia
https://www.mcieast.marines.mil/staff-offices/retired-affairs/
jeniffer.c.anderson@usmc.mil
(229) 639-5767

MCB Camp Lejeune North Carolina
https://www.mcieast.marines.mil/staff-offices/retired-affairs/
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
(252) 466-7149

MCAS/MCRDSouth Carolina
https://www.mccs-sc.com/mil-fam/crmc.shtml
parr_smb_mcrdpi_crmcp@usmc.mil
MCRD (843) 228-4574
bfmt_crmc_trs@usmc.mil
MCAS (843) 228-7701

MCB Quantico Virginia
mccs_quantico_tamp@usmc.mil
(703) 784-2659

MCB Camp SD Butler Okinawa Japan
https://www.okinawa.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/retired-affairs
mcbb_trp@usmc.mil

MCB Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii
https://hawaii.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/retired-affairs
tennille.shields@usmc.mil
(808) 257-7796
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Last Grade Held</th>
<th>Month and Year of Retirement</th>
<th>Month and Year of Death</th>
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<tr>
<td>GENERAL</td>
<td>CIPOLLA, HENRY J.</td>
<td>Jul 78/Jan 24</td>
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<td></td>
<td>DORTCH, CHARLES L.</td>
<td>Aug 99/May 23</td>
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<td>DUTKIEWICZ, PATRICIA A.</td>
<td>Dec 11/Jan 24</td>
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<td>ECKERT, DONALD E.</td>
<td>Jan 91/Oct 23</td>
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<td>ELOE, EDWIN E.</td>
<td>May 80/Dec 23</td>
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<td>JOHNSON, KENNETH E.</td>
<td>Oct 76/Dec 23</td>
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<td>KEITH, EDDIE A.</td>
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<td>LIEUTENANT GENERAL</td>
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<td>SMITH, NORMAN H.</td>
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<td>COOPER, JEROME G.</td>
<td>KLINE, SAMUEL H. III</td>
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<td>CRONIN, JOHN F.</td>
<td>MILLER, JON</td>
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<td>MCCARTHY, JOHN J. JR</td>
<td>PARKS, BENNIE L.</td>
<td>Oct 77/Dec 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>MULLEN, WILLIAM F. III</td>
<td>STEELE, RICHARD</td>
<td>Feb 82/Dec 24</td>
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<td>COLONEL</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAREY, DONALD F. JR</td>
<td>BAINBRIDGE, LEROY G.</td>
<td>Jun 87/Jan 24</td>
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<td>COOPER, THOMAS M.</td>
<td>BURK, ROGER R.</td>
<td>May 72/Oct 24</td>
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<td>FRANKLIN, CHRISTOPHER T.</td>
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<td>GROSZ, NICHOLAS H. JR</td>
<td>DAILEY, EDWIN L. JR</td>
<td>Dec 72/Nov 24</td>
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<td>JOHNSON, KARI</td>
<td>DONOHUE, EUGENE T.</td>
<td>Aug 69/Jan 24</td>
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<td>TOBIN, FRANK T.</td>
<td>GREEN, FRANK N.</td>
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<td>WOOD, CHARLES D.</td>
<td>KAMMERER, ROGER E.</td>
<td>Sep 95/Jan 24</td>
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<td>LIEUTENANT COLONEL</td>
<td>RICKMAN, LESTER JR.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOLEZAL, RICHARD M.</td>
<td>SKINNER, MARION R. JR</td>
<td>Nov 77/Dec 24</td>
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<td>GREINER, KIRK A.</td>
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<td>HARRIS, RANDALL R.</td>
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<td>HIRSCH, DONALD B.</td>
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<td>KOMAR, JOHN T.</td>
<td>COOPER, BERTRAND W. JR</td>
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<td>LEIPOLD, ROBERT D.</td>
<td>DAILEY, EDWIN L. JR</td>
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<td>MCDONALD, ROY H. JR</td>
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<td>PADGETT, ROBERT L.</td>
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<td>REYNOLDS, RICHARD C.</td>
<td>RICKMAN, LESTER JR.</td>
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<td>RYAN, VICTOR W. JR</td>
<td>SKINNER, MARION R. JR</td>
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<td>SCHWOB, CHARLES E.</td>
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<td>TUCKER, CHARLES M.</td>
<td>CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 5</td>
<td>May 97/Jan 24</td>
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<td>WILLIAMS, DONALD G.</td>
<td>HINKLE, HARRY F. JR</td>
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<td>MAJOR</td>
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<td>AMES, CARL S.</td>
<td>AUGUSTUS, CHARLES R.</td>
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<td>BLOCK, ROBERT E.</td>
<td>KIRCH, PAUL T.</td>
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<td>MATTEN, RICHARD E.</td>
<td>May 96/Sept 23</td>
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<td>MROZ, CASIMIR C.</td>
<td>Nov 92/Dec 23</td>
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**TAPS**

**SERGEANT MAJOR**

DAVIS, JOSEPH C.  
HOLM, CARL R.  
MARTINEZ, JOE JR  
SUIT, THOMAS H. III  
WHITLEY, ROBERT D.  
PECHAN, RICHARD J. JR  
PRESNAR, EUGENE R.  
QUADROS, ALBERT F.  
RUSSELL, WAYNE C.  
THORNLOW, ROBERT G.  
WHITE, WINSTON R.  
May 81/Aug 23  
Oct 88/Feb 24  
Oct 89/Feb 24  
Jun 85/Jan 24  
Jul 81/Nov 23  
May 84/Feb 24  
Feb 81/Dec 23  
Feb 89/Nov 23  
Apr 92/Dec 23  
Sep 75/Jan 24  
Aug 88/Dec 23

**MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT**

ASBURY, DONALD V.  
BRYANT, JAMES A. JR  
CAPPs, DOLLY J.  
DALE, TERRY L.  
FREED, MARK A.  
GOMILLION, STEPHEN A.  
MCNAIR, JIM T. JR  
PORTER, WACO C. JR  
RICHARDSON, BILLY C.  
SANDOVAL, ALBERT R.  
SNIDER, JAMES D.  
PVEC, RICHARD J. JR  
PRESNAR, EUGENE R.  
QUADROS, ALBERT F.  
RUSSELL, WAYNE C.  
THORNLOW, ROBERT G.  
WHITE, WINSTON R.  
Nov 78/Nov 23  
May 07/Feb 24  
Oct 88/Feb 24  
Jan 97/Jan 24  
Jun 98/Jan 24  
Aug 97/Jul 23  
Jan 81/May 22  
Apr 94/Dec 23  
Nov 90/Jan 24  
Jun 72/Feb 24  
May 04/Dec 23  
Aug 87/Jan 24  
Aug 91/Dec 23  
Feb 70/Jan 24  
Oct 80/Jan 24  
July 91/Dec 23  
Nov 76/Dec 23  
Mar 88/Jan 24  
Jun 04/Feb 24  
Jan 93/Dec 23  
Apr 77/Dec 23  
May 86/Feb 24  
Jul 09/Dec 23  
Dec 73/Dec 23  
Sep 68/Jan 24  
Jan 90/Jan 24  
Jul 81/Nov 23  
May 72/Nov 23  
Apr 88/Jan 24  
Nov 02/Jan 24  
July 91/Dec 23  
Nov 94/Dec 23  
Mar 88/Jan 24  
Jun 02/Jan 24  
Apr 77/Dec 23  
May 74/Dec 23  
Jul 74/Dec 23  
May 74/Dec 23  
Aug 64/Dec 23  
Jul 74/Dec 23  
Sep 68/Dec 23  
Dec 74/Dec 23  
Feb 80/Dec 23  
Aug 94/Dec 23  
Jan 96/Dec 23  
Oct 97/Dec 23  
Jan 96/Dec 23  
Oct 97/Dec 23

**FIRST SERGEANT**

BUTLER, JOHN S. JR  
CURTIN, AUDRY V.  
HAYEY, JOHN A.  
HENDREN, MICHAEL B.  
HOLLEN, ROBERT D.  
OQUENDO, JUAN S.  
RUX, LEE  
SAWYER, JACK H.  
STOTTLEMYER, MERLE E.  
JOCON, FORD V.  
KINGERY, GLEN E.  
KIRK, JAMES  
LEWIS, MARK W.  
MASON, GENE  
MCDANIEL, JAMES H.  
MCELROY, ANDREA H.  
MEYER, JOHN R.  
MILLER, LAIRD K.  
PAYNE, GENE L.  
PERALTU, JULIO C.  
PODGORSKI, RAYMOND S.  
ROUSH, JASON B.  
SHARP, JOHN D.  
SPANGLER, RICHARD E.  
STRANGER, JOSEPH C.  
STROZAK, ROYCE W.  
THOMAS, WILLIAM N.  
THOMPSON, DALE T.  
VILLEME, FRANCIS R.  
FORD, HAROLD S.  
May 73/Nov 23  
Aug 95/Jan 24  
Aug 95/Jan 24  
Jun 02/Jan 24  
May 74/Dec 23  
Aug 74/Jan 24  
Jun 02/Jan 24  
Apr 71/Nov 23  
Mar 76/Jul 22  
Mar 06/Jan 24  
Feb 79/Jan 24  
Dec 85/Feb 24  
Oct 94/Jan 24  
Jul 74/Jan 24  
Oct 79/Jan 24  
Sep 72/Jan 24  
May 14/Dec 24  
Jun 74/Dec 24  
Sep 91/Dec 24  
Dec 68/Nov 23  
Dec 77/Dec 23  
Feb 80/Dec 24  
Sep 79/Dec 23  
Jan 96/Dec 24  
Oct 97/Dec 24

**MASTER SERGEANT**

ASKEY, ROBERT M.  
ATTWOOD, KENNETH L.  
BAXTER, WILLIAM B.  
BICKERS, COLTON G.  
BRADESOSN, PETER L.  
COVINGTON, CHARLES C.  
DAVIS, STANLEY S.  
EDWARDS, GERALD S.  
FOSTER, JAMES E.  
GREEN, BENJAMIN T.  
HAWKINS, JAMES E.  
HUNT, CHESTER M.  
JOHNSON, JAMES C.  
KANDER, BARRY R.  
MADDOX, HAROLD D.  
MOSS, GEORGE E.  
NOBLE, KENNETH A.  
SPANGLER, RICHARD E.  
STRANGER, JOSEPH C.  
STROZAK, ROYCE W.  
THOMAS, WILLIAM N.  
THOMPSON, DALE T.  
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<th>Gunnery Sergeant’s continued from page 16</th>
<th>CORPORAL</th>
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<td>YANEY, CHAUNCEY R.</td>
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<td>TRENT, RONALD D.</td>
<td>WALDON, H. J.</td>
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Continued from page 16

![Official Arlington National Cemetery photo](image-url)
The Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Retiree Council is preparing for its annual August meeting as it continues to serve Navy and Marine Corps retirees, dependents, and annuitants.

Council members maintain frequent contact as they gather information, research retirement issues, contact subject matter experts, and set the agenda for the upcoming meeting.


Vice Admiral Trussler, a native of Oklahoma, recently retired from the Navy after serving as Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare, N2/N6, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations/Director of Naval Intelligence. His previous shore and staff assignments include Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC), U.S. Pacific Fleet (CINCPACFLT) nuclear propulsion examining board (NPEB), two tours at the Navy Personnel Command (NPC), the Joint Staff, and the Navy Staff. His flag assignments were as the first commander, Undersea War fighting Development Center (UWDC) and as director, Future Plans on the Navy Staff.

“As a recent retiree, I have already experienced some of the challenges of information flow and surprise at access to services,” Trussler said. “I look forward to working with the Council and all those working Navy and Marine Corps retiree issues to honor our nation’s commitments to those who served a career in our armed forces.”

Sergeant Major Barrett, a native of New York state, served as the 17th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps from June 9, 2011, until February 20, 2015. He previously served in instructor and leadership roles at the company, Battalion, Division and Marine Expeditionary Force levels; Marine drill instructor roles including Chief Drill Instructor and Battalion Drill Master; and NATO Regional Command (Southwest) Command Sergeant Major for Nimruz and Helmand Province, Afghanistan. During the Gulf War, he deployed forward with Task Force Papa Bear. He completed two combat deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in the Al Anbar Province, Iraq.

“Catholic Sunday School taught me (that) life is joy,” Barrett said. “Fighting for and defending America inspired me; life is service. I acted and found service was joy. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve our Navy and Marine Corps retirees. Always faithful!”

Jenny Hawkes, LtCol, USMCR (Ret)
Ask the Retired Service Officer: Things to know when traveling outside the US

Jenny Hawkes, LtCol., USMCR (Ret)
Outreach, Overseas & Resources
Committee Chair, SECNAV Retiree Council

This column addresses questions and issues commonly raised by retirees to Retired Activities Office (RAO) representatives of the Navy’s Retired activities Branch which apprises the military retired community of benefits, entitlements, rights, privileges, and changes in retirement law, and provides customer service to military retirees, families, annuitants, and survivors.

Retired Activities Office representatives research questions, provide reliable answers, and refer personnel to appropriate service providers, thus helping retirees and their families obtain the rights, benefits, and privileges to which they’re entitled.

Volunteer opportunities exist at several RAOs in CONUS and OCONUS. Check the listing of offices printed on page 22.

The information below was submitted by the Outreach/Overseas/Resources Committee of the SECNAV Retiree Council. To learn more about the Council, click on www.mynavyhr.navy.mil.

Access the Council’s Facebook page by searching for Navy and Marine Corps Retirees, then like and follow for frequent news updates.

Q: Does Medicare cover me when I travel outside the United States?

A: Medicare will not cover you outside the United States, except in rare situations. For example, Medicare may cover treatment at a Canadian hospital if you have a medical emergency while traveling between Alaska and another state. Medicare may also cover treatment if you have a medical emergency while in the U.S. or a U.S. territory and the nearest hospital is across the border in Canada or Mexico.

If you’re on a ship that is within six hours of a U.S. port, you’ll likely have Medicare coverage. Some Medical Advantage (Part C) plans may cover certain emergencies if they occur outside the United States. In most cases, you’ll need supplemental travel insurance.

Q: What about TRICARE coverage while I’m traveling overseas?

A: Medicare does not provide coverage outside the United States or its territories. Therefore, TRICARE For Life becomes the primary payer for health care received in all other overseas locations. You’re responsible for paying TRICARE’s annual deductible and cost shares.

Q: Am I eligible for medical treatment at overseas U.S. military medical treatment facilities?

A: Before embarking on overseas travel, check to see if the U.S. has a military base or bases in the country or countries you’ll be visiting. Then check on the military treatment facility or facilities to see what is covered.

In case of a medical emergency, it may be helpful to have more than one credit card account. Medical expenses can be really high. If you must make payments, you will have your credit cards available. If you must make medical payments out of your own pocket, you might be able to get some portion reimbursed from TRICARE.

Consider purchasing medical insurance before you travel outside the U.S. and U.S. territories. Keep your information current with the organizations that have a role in your health care enrollment and coverage.

Continuing in their roles are Council Chief of Staff Capt. Martin Menez, U.S. Navy (Ret.), and Council Recorder YNC(AW) Eric Wenzel, U.S. Navy (Ret.).

The Secretary of the Navy established the Navy and Marine Corps Retiree Council to consider issues of significant importance to retired military personnel and their family members, to facilitate interaction between Department of Navy leadership and the Navy and Marine Corps retired community, and to facilitate participation in other aspects of the Retired Activities Program.

In the months leading up to the annual meeting in August, the Council reviews the effectiveness of current programs and policies affecting retirees. The Council may make recommendations concerning improvements to privileges, benefits, assistance to retirees, quality of life, and any other matters relating to retired personnel.

SECNAV Instruction 5420.169K details Council membership and responsibilities and broadly empowers the Council to make recommendations on any matter relating to retired personnel.

If you haven’t already done so, consider liking and following the Navy and Marine Corps Retiree Council page on Facebook. Search for “Navy and Marine Corps Retirees” or use the direct link. Visit the page often for updates and news of interest to Navy and Marine Corps retirees.
FALLS CHURCH, Va. — Diabetes is a common condition in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 38 million American adults currently have diabetes.

“Even though diabetes is common, many people don’t know about its connection to oral health,” said Douglas Elsesser, a program analyst with the Dental Program Section of the TRICARE Health Plan. “Uncontrolled diabetes can negatively affect your oral health in many ways.”

If you have diabetes, it’s important to keep it under control. Here are some examples of how diabetes can affect your oral health:

- **Reduced saliva production.** Saliva helps clean bacteria and neutralize acids that cause tooth decay. Having less saliva increases your risk for cavities.
- **Rapid bacteria growth.** High blood sugar levels allow bacteria in the mouth to multiply quickly. Oral bacteria causes gum disease and other infections.
- **Increased plaque buildup.** Plaque is a film of bacteria that sticks to teeth. Unchecked diabetes increases plaque buildup. This increases your risk for gum disease.
- **Decreased ability to fight infections.** People with diabetes are more prone to gingivitis and advanced gum disease. These infections can destroy gum tissue and bone, leading to tooth loss.

Poor oral health also makes diabetes harder to manage. Gum disease causes inflammation, which can spike blood sugar levels, which is a concern for people with diabetes.

To properly care for your oral health, you can adopt these practices:

- Brush your teeth twice a day and floss daily.
- Seek treatment right away if you show any signs of gum disease. Early signs of gum disease include swollen gums, gums that bleed easily, and bad breath that won’t go away.
- Coordinate treatment with your dentist and physician.
- Quit smoking and using tobacco.
- Limit the amount of sugar you eat and drink.
- Chew sugar-free gum to increase saliva flow.

Wondering how TRICARE covers dental care? Dental coverage is separate from TRICARE’s health plan coverage. Your dental coverage options are based on who you are:

- Active duty service members get their dental care at military dental clinics or through the Active Duty Dental Program.
- Other beneficiary types may be eligible for dental coverage through the TRICARE Dental Program or the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program. Enrollment in these programs is voluntary, as noted in the TRICARE Dental Options Fact Sheet.

If you’re enrolled in the TDP, you may be eligible for the TDP Wellness Program. The TDP Wellness Program offers expanded coverage at no additional cost to people with diabetes and certain other health conditions. This coverage includes additional cleanings, fluoride treatments, and certain gum surgery procedures. If you have diabetes, be sure to enroll in the TDP Wellness Program through the TDP contractor, United Concordia. To enroll, go to the United Concordia TDP website [https://www.ucitdp.com/dtwdws/member/landing.xhtml](https://www.ucitdp.com/dtwdws/member/landing.xhtml) and log in to My Account.

No matter what other health conditions you live with, it’s important to take good care of your oral health. Check out the TRICARE Dental Program *Health Matters* newsletter for more oral health tips.
Now that you’re retired, you’re hoping to have more time to travel with your family for some real R&R. You booked your flight and packed your bags but when you go to check-in prior to departure, you notice you don’t have a TSA PreCheck indicator on your boarding pass. You’re sure you entered your CAC ID in the Known Traveler Number (KTN) field for all your airline profiles so this very thing wouldn’t happen. What gives? When you call the airline, they can’t seem to get your DoD ID to take. You note that you have recently retired from duty and discover your DoD ID is no longer valid for TSA PreCheck.

What happened?
TSA PreCheck is a risk based system that allows for expedited screening for trusted travelers. When a civilian enrolls and is approved for the program they receive a Known Traveler Number (KTN). The whole process of application involves a security threat assessment based upon a background check. So for years as a uniformed service member you received TSA PreCheck by virtue of your continued military service and the background checks conducted by the DoD. Upon separation/retirement from service the DoD background check is no longer valid; therefore, your DoD ID can no longer be used as your KTN regardless if you have one on your retirement ID.

What should I do?
To avoid any break in your TSA PreCheck benefits, we encourage Military Members to apply for TSA PreCheck (or another DHS Trusted Traveler Program) prior to retiring or transitioning out of service. The process starts with a brief online application with one of our enrollment providers. Next, you visit one of over 650 convenient enrollment locations (found here searchable by zip code) https://www.tsa.gov/precheck/enrollment-centers to complete your enrollment by scanning your fingerprints, showing proof of citizenship and photo capture. Most applicants are approved within 3-5 business days and once enrolled, you will receive a Known Traveler Number (KTN) that is good for 5 years. Plus, the TSA PreCheck program partners with many credit cards and loyalty programs, to offer application fee reimbursement. Win-win!

What about my family?
Just as when you were in service, your spouse, travel companions, and family members over 18 will need to individually enroll. Children 12 and under can always accompany you in the TSA PreCheck line for free as well as children 13-17, when on the same reservation and the TSA PreCheck indicator appears on their boarding pass.

I have more questions, who can I contact?
TSA is here to ensure secure travel for all. TSA Cares is here to help travelers who require assistance at the airport and the

---

3 Step Process to enroll in TSA PreCheck and get a known traveler number (KTN)

1. Select an Enrollment Provider (5-10 min.)
   - Pre-enroll online
   - Visit the chosen provider's location to complete the enrollment
   - 600+ enrollment locations nationwide

2. Visit an Enrollment Location (10 min)
   - Required documents scanned
   - Fingerprints collected
   - Photograph taken
   - Application fee collected

3. Get Approved:
   - Receive Known Traveler Number (KTN)
   - Most applicants approved in 3-5 days
   - Add KTN to airline reservations and frequent flyer accounts
   - Applicants will receive approval notification via e-mail or text.
   - KTN is valid for 5 years
   - Check KTN status online

No passport required — enjoy expedited screening when departing from U.S. airports.

With TSA PreCheck® you do not need to remove:

- shoes
- laptops
- 3-1-1 liquids
- belts
- light jackets

17M+ Members
600+ Enrollment locations
90+ Airlines
200+ Airports
99% Wait less than 10 minutes
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]
   - 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]

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)
What to Do When a Retired Marine Dies
DFAS Checklist

What You Need to Know

We are sorry for your loss, and we are here to help you. Although it’s a difficult time, it’s important to report the death of a military retiree promptly. Please use one of the options below to report the death of a retiree.

Information about claiming a retiree’s final pay and claiming Survivor Benefit Plan payments (if the retiree was enrolled) is also included in this checklist.

Additional information is available on the DFAS Report a Retiree’s Death webpage: https://www.dfas.mil/retdeath

Please note: The Arrears of Pay (AOP) beneficiary and Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) beneficiary are designated by the retiree. They can be the same, but are not always the same. Separate claims must be made for AOP and SBP.

How to Report a Retiree’s Death

Prompt reporting of a death is important to avoid overpayment. Retired pay ends on the date of death of the retiree.

You can report a retiree’s death using our online form or by calling our Customer Care Center, or via fax or mail. Filling out the online askDFAS Notification of Death form is the quickest and most convenient option. It’s available 24/7.

☐ To use the online askDFAS Notification of Death form, visit our Quick Tools webpage: https://www.dfas.mil/raquicktools, then click on "To Report the Death of a Retiree."

☐ To contact our Customer Care Center, call toll-free: 1-800-321-1080 or 1-317-212-0551 (during business hours M-F, Eastern Time).

☐ Fax to: 1-800-469-6559 OR Mail to: Defense Finance and Accounting Service, U.S. Military Retired Pay, 8899 E 56th Street, Indianapolis IN 46249-1200

What Happens When DFAS Receives Notification of Death

Upon notification of death, we will send a condolence letter with instructions for claiming the retiree’s final pay. If the retiree was enrolled in the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) we will also send the forms to claim SBP annuity payments.

DFAS will stop monthly payments upon notification of death to prevent overpayment. Because retired pay ends on the date of death, if a payment was made after the date of the retiree’s death, we are required to notify the bank to reclaim the entire payment. Once we receive the paperwork to claim a retiree’s pay, we can calculate and pay the retiree’s final pro-rated payment to

Supporting Documents Required

✦ We are required to have a copy of the retiree’s Certificate of Death that states the cause or manner of death prior to making payments. If you have not yet provided this specific type of death certificate, please include a copy of it with your documents.

✦ The supporting documents to claim SBP depends on your individual situation. Please check our webpage for specific information: https://www.dfas.mil/startsb

Reminders

✦ Is your form signed and dated by you (and by witnesses for the AOP SF 1174)?

✦ Did you include supporting documents? Is the retiree’s name and Social Security Number on each document?
What You Need to Do: Claim a Retiree’s Final Pay

When the death of a retiree is reported, we mail a condolence letter to the person/people listed in the retiree’s account as the Arrears of Pay (AOP) beneficiary. If there is no beneficiary listed in the retiree’s account, we will send the letter to the retiree’s legal representative, if known, or to the retiree’s last known address. The condolence letter is generally sent within a week of the report of death.

The mailing will include the Arrears of Pay (AOP) claim form—SF 1174 Claim for Unpaid Compensation of Deceased Member of the Uniformed Service.

☐ Complete and submit the SF 1174 form, along with the retiree’s death certificate indicating the cause and/or manner of death. This death certificate is required for us to calculate and pay the retiree’s final pay. Please note that the SF 1174 must be signed by two witnesses in addition to the claimant.

☐ Include a completed Direct Deposit Authorization (DFAS-CL Form 1059) with your SF 1174 to have an AOP payment direct deposited to your bank account. Please avoid using a joint account that was shared with a deceased retiree for this deposit. Banks return those payments to DFAS.

☐ Upload a PDF of your completed/signed/witnessed SF 1174 form and supporting documents via the convenient askDFAS online upload tool on DFAS.mil: https://www.dfas.mil/askdfas. Please make sure the retiree’s name and Social Security Number are on each document you upload.

OR Mail AOP claims to: Defense Finance and Accounting Service, U.S. Military Retired Pay, 8899 E 56th Street, Indianapolis IN 46249-1200 OR Fax to: 1-800-469-6559

You can download forms from our Forms Library webpage at https://www.dfas.mil/raforms and submit them without waiting for the mail.

Please see the How to Claim a Retiree’s Arrears of Pay (AOP) Using the SF 1174 webpage at https://www.dfas.mil/retireeaop for how-to information and helpful tools for filling out and submitting these documents, including our helpful Form Wizard, which guides you through completing the form correctly and

What You Need to Do: The Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP)

☐ If the retiree was enrolled in the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) or the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan (RSFPP), promptly complete and submit the DD 2656-7 Verification for Survivor Annuity and supporting documents.

☐ Upload a PDF of your completed/signed DD 2656-7 form and supporting documents via the convenient askDFAS online upload tool on DFAS.mil: https://www.dfas.mil/askdfas. Please make sure the retiree’s name and Social Security Number are on each document you upload.

OR Mail SBP claims to: Defense Finance and Accounting Service, U.S. Military Annuity Pay, 8899 E 56th Street, Indianapolis IN 46249-1300 OR Fax to: 1-800-982-8459

You can download forms from our Forms Library webpage at https://www.dfas.mil/raforms and submit them without waiting for the mail.

Please see the Start an SBP Annuity webpage at https://www.dfas.mil/startsbp for how-to information and helpful tools for filling out and submitting these documents, including our helpful Form Wizard, which guides you through completing the form correctly

The Retiree’s Final Tax Document (1099-R)

The retiree’s final tax document (IRS 1099-R) is typically issued at the same time as the Arrears of Pay payment to the AOP beneficiary.

If a retiree’s legal representative who is not the AOP beneficiary needs a copy of the 1099-R, they should send a signed and dated letter that includes the retiree’s full name, Social Security Number, the 1099-R request, and the full name and relationship of the requestor, along with a copy of the retiree’s Certificate of Death (if not already on file). The Certificate of Death is required in order for the 1099-R to be issued.
Update: Distribution Changes for the *Semper Fidelis*

As previously mentioned, we will be reducing the number of copies of the *Semper Fidelis* newsletter we print and mail each quarter. Effective with Volume 68 Number 3, the August-September 2024 issue of the *Semper Fidelis*, copies will be printed and mailed to ONLY those Marines who retired PRIOR to 1 January 2002. Surviving spouses and annuitants will not be affected by this change at this time.

We highly encourage all retired Marines and annuitants to sign up for MyPay with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and verify the accuracy of your email address. This will ensure you receive all future issues of the newsletter in a much timelier manner.

This, and previous issues of the Semper Fidelis can be accessed 24/7 online at: https://www.hqmc.marines.mil/Agencies/Manpower-Reserve-Affairs-MMSR-6/
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) 604-3437

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: (800)723-9262 or (502) 613-9510
https://www.hrc.army.mil
Search “Cold War Certificate”

COMBAT-RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION
SECNAV CRSC Board
720 Kennon St. SE, Ste. 309; Washington, DC 20374-5023
(877) 366-2772, (202) 685-6408, Fax: (202) 685-6610
usn.ncr.astsecnavmr.adc.mbx@us.navy.mil

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; www.archives.gov/st-louis
Marines discharged/retired/separated on or after 1 January 1999:
Manpower Management Performance Branch (MMPB-2)
2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5030
(800) 268-3710 option (1); smb.manpower.mmrp-10@usmc.mil

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE
(800) 321-1080, 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

Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP)
(800) LTC-FEDS ((800) 582-3337)
www.LTCFEDS.com/Military

M
MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION
715 Broadway St., Quantico, VA 22134
(866) 622-1775, ext. 100, Fax: (703) 640-0162
mca@mca-marines.org

• Leatherneck Magazine
(800) 336-0291, ext. 115; Fax: (703) 640-0823
leatherneck@mca-marines.org

• Marine Corps Gazette
(800) 336-0291, ext. 144; Fax: (703) 630-9147
gazette@mca-marines.org

MARINE BARRACKS WASHINGTON
8th and I, Washington, DC, www.barracks.marines.mil
S

SISTER SERVICE RETIREE PUBLICATIONS
- Army Echoes: https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/echoes
- Coast Guard Evening Colors: www.uscg.mil/pc/coolors
- Navy Shift Colors: www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Media-Center/Publications/Shift-Colors/

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
(800) 772-1213; www.ssa.gov

SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN
www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/provide/sbp

T

THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN: (877) 968-3778; Fax: (216) 367-3605; TSP mailbox: ccl-mc-tsp@dfas.mil
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-overses.com
- Health Beneficiary Counseling Assistance Coordinator: https://tricare.mil/bca5dca0

TRICARE for LIFE: (866) 773-0404; www.tricare4u.com

TRICARE Network Pharmacy Program
(877) 363-1303;

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; www.va.gov
VA EDUCATION: (888) 442-4551; www.gibill.va.gov
VA LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAMS:
(800) 669-8477; www.insurance.va.gov
VA SGLI/VGLI: (800) 419-1473
VA STATUS OF HEADSTONES AND MARKERS:
(800) 697-6947

Continued on page 28
Access your newsletter online at https://www.hqmc.marines.mil/Agencies/Manpower-Reserve-Affairs-MMSR-6/

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**VACANT, Branch Head**

Maj Cody Pennington, *Assistant Branch Head*

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*(MMSR-6)*

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

*Active Duty Separations and Retirements*

- **Officer**
  smb.manpower.mmsr2o@usmc.mil

- **Enlisted**
  smb.manpower.mmsr2e@usmc.mil

**MMSR-4:** (703) 784-9308/09/21

*Disability Separations and Retirements*

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

**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