

SEMPER FIDELIS

NEWSLETTER FOR RETIRED MARINES

A NEW COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

General Berger takes command of the Marine Corps

July 11, 2019 | By David Vergun US Dept of Defense



Photo by: Marine Corps Sgt Robert Knapp

General David H. Berger the 38th Commandant of the Marine Corps took command from General Robert B. Neller at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., July 11, 2019.

“General David H. Berger is the right person to lead the Marine Corps in this era of great power competition with Russia and China”, then Acting Defense Secretary Dr. Mark T. Esper said at a ceremony in which General Berger became the 38th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

General Berger succeeded General Robert B. Neller who passed command at Marine Barracks Washington July 11, 2019. As the Commandant, General Berger is now a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"I can think of no better leader to assume the duties of Commandant," Dr. Esper said. "He understands well the challenges we face in today's complex, strategic environment. He is a visionary who has committed to marching the Marine Corps down the path to modernizing for future warfare."

Dr. Esper added that General Berger has proven throughout his career that he possesses the intellect, the stamina and the courage needed to succeed in this demanding position.

General Berger said becoming Commandant is not the greatest honor he has experienced. "I consider it a privilege just to wear the uniform and stand in your ranks," he told the Marines at the ceremony. "Just to call yourself a Marine is the greatest honor."

General Neller said he's been asked what he'd like to be remembered for during his tenure as Commandant. "We're a little bit better placed, we're a little more ready, we're a little bit better trained, we've got a little bit better equipment, but that's come through a lot of hard work from the Marines," he said.

Dr. Esper also praised the Marine Corps. "When America needs a job done well," he said, "she can continue to count on the few and the proud to accomplish the mission."

Sergeant Major Troy E. Black Becomes the 19th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps

WASHINGTON, D.C. - July 26, 2019

Sergeant Major Troy E. Black received the Sword of Office from Sergeant Major Ronald L. Green during a Relief and Appointment ceremony at Marine Barracks Washington, July 26, signifying his new position as the 19th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps.

Sergeant Major Black, a Louisville, Kentucky native and 31-year Marine veteran, assumes responsibility as the senior ranking enlisted Marine in the Corps.

"I am proud of our Corps and our Marines," said Sergeant Major Black. "I look forward to serving the Marines, Sailors and families that dedicate themselves to the Corps every day."

Sergeant Major Green, a Jackson, Mississippi native, turned over his responsibilities after serving as the 18th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps since 2015.

During his time as Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, Sergeant Major Green worked hard to assist the Commandant in improving lethality through innovative training, increasing educational opportunities for enlisted Marines, and advocating for Marine and Family resources.

"I want to thank all the Marines, Civilian Marines, Sailors, families and everyone who supports our Corps every day," said Sergeant Major Green. "It has been an honor to serve as the 18th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps. Though I am no longer in the game, I will be cheering from the sidelines. Take care of our Corps, your fellow Marines, your families and yourselves. Semper Fidelis."



US Marine Corps photo.

Sergeant Major Ronald L. Green, 18th Sergeant Major the Marine Corps, left, Sergeant Major Troy E. Black, 19th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, middle, and Commandant of the Marine Corps General David H. Berger, right, stand in the reviewing area at the conclusion of a relief and appointment ceremony at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., July 26, 2019.



The post of Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps was established in 1957 as the senior enlisted advisor to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, the first such post in any of the branches of the United States Armed Forces. The Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps is selected by the Commandant, and typically serves a four-year term, although service is at the pleasure of the Commandant.





Photo by: Marine Corps Sgt Robert Knapp

Washington,, D.C.- July 11, 2019

Marines march across the parade deck for pass in review during a passage of command ceremony at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., July 11, 2019.



US Marine Corps photo.

Washington, D.C. - July 26, 2019

Sergeant Major Troy Black accepts the sword of office from the Commandant of the Marine Corps General David H. Berger. Sergeant Major Black attended recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., in April of 1988.

**SEMPER FIDELIS NEWSLETTER
FOR RETIRED MARINES**

Volume 63 No. 3

July—September 2019

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

The Semper Fidelis newsletter is published with appropriated funds on a quarterly basis.

Access it online:

<https://www.hqmc.marines.mil/Agencies/Manpower-Reserve-Affairs-MMSR-6/>

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MILITARY MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES TRANSITION PLAN

NAVY SURGEON GENERAL STATEMENT

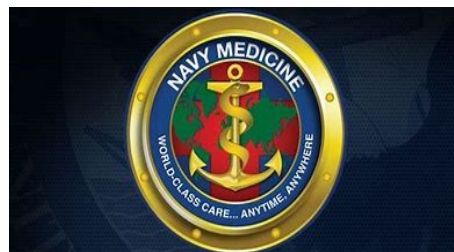
Published on August 5, 2019, NAVADMIN 180/19, conveys Navy Surgeon General Vice Admiral C. Forrest Faison III's message regarding the transition of military treatment facilities from the Services to the Defense Health Agency (DHA) and provides Sailors, Marines and their families with information about the transition of Navy military medical treatment facilities (MTF) to the Defense Health Agency (DHA).

The Department of Defense Military Health System (MHS) is undergoing a transition as administration and management of the Services' hospitals and clinics are transferred to DHA. This is occurring over several years with a goal envisioned by Congress that the MHS become a more standardized and a more integrated system of healthcare services. The Services have been working closely with DHA on the details and specifics of this transition.

This transition should be seamless to you. During this transition, you should see no immediate impact to access, healthcare services, or the things you and your families need. As this is a new role for DHA, the Services have continued, and will continue, to provide support and assistance to ensure our MTF's remain fully functional, and there is no immediate impact to care or services during transition until DHA is able to assume full administrative and management responsibility. Likewise, our Fleet and Fleet Marine Force Commanders should see no changes in Fleet or Fleet Marine Force support. Medical and medical support services required for operational support, all personnel who provide those services, and all uniformed personnel will remain within the Navy lifelines and under Navy control.

This transition is a multi-year effort, which started for the Navy in October 2018 when Naval Hospital Jacksonville transferred under DHA's administration and management. On 1 October 2019, more Navy MTFs in the U.S. will transition to the DHA. OCONUS MTFs, in a phased approach, will transition after all CONUS facilities, with the transfer of administration and management completed no later than 30 September 2021.

As we shift administration and management responsibilities of these MTFs to DHA, it will create opportunity for Navy medicine to increase focus on operational support and keeping service members healthy and on the job. It will also enable us to enhance focus on unit support during sustained high tempo operations while creating opportunities for us to better prepare the medical force to deliver high combat survival and support in the future. We make a commitment to every Sailor, Marine, and their family that we will provide them the best care our nation can offer and do all in our power to return them home safely and alive. This transition will assist us in honoring that commitment.



DOD TO BEGIN NEXT MAJOR PHASE OF MILITARY HOSPITAL CONSOLIDATION



MHS Military Health System
TRANSFORMATION

On October 1, all military treatment facilities in the continental U.S. will transition under the administration and management of the Defense Health Agency.

Why military treatment facilities are moving under the Defense Health Agency and what it means...

THIS CHANGE CREATES A SYSTEM THAT IS MORE:

INTEGRATED by creating more standardization and consistency across all facilities.	EFFICIENT by eliminating duplication in medical costs and spending on overhead.	EFFECTIVE by focusing the best resources on high-quality care for patients.
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MHS Military Health System
health.mil

The Department of Defense is preparing for the next major step in consolidating military hospitals and clinics under a single agency, one of the largest organizational changes within the U.S. military in decades.

On October 1, the Army, Navy and Air Force will begin the final two years of a multi-year transition to shift administration and management of their medical facilities to the Defense Health Agency by October 2021.

The DHA will be responsible for all the health care the Department of Defense delivers to its beneficiaries receiving care at an on-base facility or through the TRICARE civilian networks.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2017, mandated that a single agency be responsible for the administration and management of all military hospitals and clinics.

DHA will be responsible for health care delivery and business operations across the Military Health System including budgets, information technology, health care administration and management, administrative policies and procedures, and military medical construction.

From October 1 of this year through October 2021, the transition will focus on four primary objectives:

- **Centralized administration and management:** On October 1, all hospitals and clinics in the continental United States will transition to the DHA, with the Army, Navy and Air Force medical departments maintaining a direct support role.
- **Establish Health Care Markets:** At the center of the reorganization is the creation of health care markets. The DHA will stand up 21 large markets during the transition period to manage Medical Treatment Facilities (MTFs) in local areas. A market is a group of MTFs in a geographic area - typically anchored by a large hospital or medical center - that operate as a system sharing patients, providers, functions, and budgets across facilities to improve the coordination and delivery of health care services. These 21 large markets will collectively manage 246 medical facilities and centers of excellence.
- **Establishment of a Small Market and Stand-Alone MTF Organization (SSO):** For stateside hospitals and clinics not aligned to a large market, this office, referred to as SSO, will provide managerial and clinical oversight. As with the large markets, the military departments will continue managing the MTFs until they are realigned under the SSO. There are 16 small market MTFs and 66 stand-alone MTFs assigned to the SSO.
- **Establish Defense Health Regions overseas:** The transition period for standing up Defense Health Regions in Europe and Indo-Pacific will begin in 2020. All MTFs overseas would then report to their respective DHA regional offices. The Indo-Pacific region has 43 MTFs, while the European region has 31.

(For a complete list of markets and their assigned MTFs, go to the MHS Transformation web page at www.health.mil/mhststransformation.)





T R I C A R E®

By: TRICARE.mil Staff

TRICARE Open Season and Federal Benefits Open Season 11 November - 9 December

TRICARE Open Season applies to anyone enrolled in or eligible for TRICARE Prime (including the US Family Health Plan) or TRICARE Select.

Federal Benefits Open Season is for enrollment in the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP). Both the TRICARE and FEDVIP open seasons begin on **November 11 and end on December 9, 2019**. Enrollment choices made during this period will take effect on **January 1, 2020**.

“Every year your health coverage needs may change,” said Mark Ellis, chief of the Policy and Programs Section of the TRICARE Health Plan at the Defense Health Agency. “Open season is your chance to think about the kind of coverage you’ll need for the upcoming year and make any changes.”

To get ready for open season, you can use tools on the TRICARE website (<https://www.tricare.mil/>), like the TRICARE plan finder and TRICARE compare cost tool. These resources help you see which plans you’re eligible for and help you to compare plans and costs. On the FEDVIP enrollment website (<https://www.benefeds.com/>) you can enroll in or make changes to your FEDVIP plan. The website also provides tools to help you find the right dental and/or vision plans for you and your family. Telephone Benefeds at (1-877-888-3337).

What can you do during TRICARE Open Season?

If you’re eligible to participate in TRICARE Open Season, you have three choices for your 2020 health coverage:

- **Do nothing.** If you want to stay in your current TRICARE health care plan, you don’t have to take any action. You’ll continue in your current health plan through 2020 or as long as you’re eligible.
- **Enroll in a plan.** If you’re eligible for TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select you can enroll in a plan now.
 - 1.) TRICARE Prime a managed care option available in Prime Service Areas in the United States; you have an assigned primary care manager who provides most of your care.
 - 2.) *TRICARE Select replaced TRICARE Standard and Extra on January 1, 2018. TRICARE Select is a self-managed, preferred provider network plan. TRICARE Select is a fee-for-service option in the United States that allows you to get care from any TRICARE-authorized provider. Enrollment is required to participate.
- **Change plans.** If you’re already enrolled in a TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select plan, you can switch plans and switch between individual and family enrollment.

TRICARE Open Season doesn’t apply to TRICARE For Life (TFL). TFL coverage is automatic if you have Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B. Open season also doesn’t apply to premium-based plans:

TRICARE Retired Reserve
TRICARE Reserve Select
TRICARE Young Adult
Continued Health Care Benefit Program

You can purchase premium-based plans any time.

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TRICARE Open Season and Federal Benefits Open Season 11 November - 9 December

What can you do during Federal Benefits Open Season?

By: TRICARE.mil Staff

Your chance to enroll in FEDVIP is during the Federal Benefits Open Season.

FEDVIP, managed by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, offers eligible TRICARE beneficiaries a choice between multiple vision and dental plans and carriers. Some plans offer both high and standard options.

If you're already enrolled in a FEDVIP dental and/or vision plan, your enrollment will automatically continue in 2020. If you wish to make changes to your existing plan, you must do so during open season.

Those eligible for FEDVIP dental coverage include:

- Retired service members and their eligible family members
- Retired National Guard and Reserve members and their eligible family members
- Certain survivors
- Medal of Honor recipients and their immediate family members and survivors

Those who may qualify to purchase FEDVIP vision coverage include:

- Active duty family members
- National Guard and Reserve members and their eligible family members
- Retired service members and their eligible family members

To enroll in a FEDVIP vision plan, you must be enrolled in a TRICARE health plan or have TFL coverage.



- Tricare East (1-800-444-5445)
- Tricare West (1-844-866-9378)
- <https://www.tricare.mil/>



- Benefeds/FEDVIP for vision and dental plan information (1-877-888-3337)
- <https://www.benefeds.com/>



Take COMMAND

☆☆☆ Enhance Your TRICARE® Experience

Effective January, 1 2019, outside of TRICARE Open Season, beneficiaries can only enroll in, or make changes to their TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select plans if they experience a Qualifying Life Event, or QLE.

- A QLE is a certain change in your life, such as marriage, birth of a child, or retirement from active duty, which may mean different TRICARE health plan options are available to you.
- A QLE opens a 90-day period for you to make eligible enrollment changes.
- A QLE for one family member means all family members may make enrollment changes.
- QLEs include military and family changes, as well as government-directed changes.
- QLE may allow you and your family to:
 - 1.) Enroll in a new TRICARE health plan.
 - 2.) Change your health plan coverage.
- If you want to enroll in or change your health plan, you must:
 - 1.) Ensure the QLE is reflected in DEERS.
 - 2.) Make the enrollment changes within 90 days following the QLE.
 - 3.) Pay any enrollment fees or premiums due during that period.

No matter when you initiate the enrollment change following a QLE, coverage starts on the date of the QLE.

Child Moving Away to College

- Your child's relocation must be to a new country, and/or city, region, or ZIP+4 code to be a QLE.
- You have 90 days from the date of your child's address change in the DEERS to make any changes to your family's health plan.

Relocation to a New Country, City, Region, or ZIP+4 code (self-attestation)

- You must update the DEERS with your new address.
- Your move must be to a new country, and/or city, region, or ZIP+4 code to be a QLE.
- You have 90 days from the date of your address change to change your health plan.
- Your TRICARE eligibility doesn't change when you move, but it may change your health plan options.

Children Becoming Adults

- You have 90 days after your child turns 21 to make changes to your TRICARE health plan.
- Biological and adopted children can get TRICARE until their 21st birthday in most cases. There are some exceptions to the age limit. At 21, your child may qualify for TRICARE Young Adult if they:
 - 1.) Are age 21-26
 - 2.) Remain unmarried
 - 3.) Are adult dependent children

There are premiums for TRICARE Young Adult. If your child doesn't qualify to purchase TRICARE Young Adult, they can purchase the Continued Health Care Benefit Program.

Continued on page 9



Take COMMAND

☆☆☆ Enhance Your TRICARE® Experience

Continued from page 8

Birth of a Child

Retiree Stateside

- You have 90 days from your child's birth date to register your newborn in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). You don't need a Social Security number (SSN), but are required to have the birth certificate and signed DD Form 1172-2. Once you have your child's SSN, be sure to update DEERS.

Your newborn is not automatically enrolled!

- Enrolling in a TRICARE plan is a separate step that must also be completed within 90 days of your child's birth date.
- You can enroll online, over the phone or through the mail, depending on where you live.

Retiree Overseas

- You have 120 days from your child's birth date to register your newborn in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). You don't need a Social Security number (SSN), but are required to have certificate of live birth and signed DD Form 1172-2. Once you have your child's SSN, be sure to update DEERS.

Your newborn is not automatically enrolled!

- Enrolling in a TRICARE plan is a separate step that must also be completed within 90 days of your child's birth date.
- You can enroll online, over the phone or through the mail, depending on where you live.

Adoption of a Child

- You have 90 days from your child's birth date to register your newborn in the DEERS. You don't need a Social Security number, but are required to have a record of adoption/letter of placement of the child into the home by a recognized placement/adoption agency or the court before the final adoption, and signed DD Form 1172-2. Once you have your child's social security, be sure to update DEERS with that number.
- Your child's health plan depends on the sponsor's military status and where you live. Your stepchildren are eligible for TRICARE coverage.

Placement of a Child by a Court in a Member's Home

- When a child is placed in your home, you must enroll your child in the DEERS within 90 days of the effective date listed on the court order.
- Take the court order to your nearest RAPIDS location to enroll the child in the DEERS. Your Service will determine the child's eligibility.



UNDERSTANDING COORDINATION OF BENEFITS AND OTHER HEALTH INSURANCE (OHI)

How TRICARE Calculates Payment with Other Health Insurance

TRICARE requires coordination of benefits with OHI coverage. TRICARE does not always pay your OHI copayment or the balance left over after the OHI payment. However, you usually owe very little to nothing. The TRICARE payment calculation is based on the provider's status. Note: Most inpatient facilities have other calculations not listed below.

TRICARE Network Providers and Non-Network Providers Who Accept TRICARE Assignment (Participating)

TRICARE pays the lowest of:

- billed amount minus the OHI payment
- amount TRICARE would have paid without OHI
- amount beneficiary owes after the OHI paid (usually the OHI copayment or cost share)

Providers Who Do Not Accept TRICARE Assignment (Nonparticipating)

Nonparticipating providers may only bill the beneficiary up to 115 percent of the TRICARE allowed amount. If the OHI paid more than 115 percent of the allowed amount, no TRICARE payment is authorized, as the charge is considered paid in full and the provider may not bill the beneficiary. Otherwise, TRICARE pays the lowest of:

- 115 percent of the allowed amount minus the OHI payment
- Amount TRICARE would have paid without OHI
- Amount beneficiary owes after the OHI paid (usually the OHI copayment or cost share)

Staff Model HMOs, Group HMOs and Other Capitated OHI Plan Providers

When you are enrolled in one of these OHI plans, the provider group either works directly for the HMO or is paid a monthly/annual amount rather than a fee for each service performed. In these plans, you generally only receive a copayment receipt – an itemized bill or Explanation of Benefits (EOB) is not available.

In these cases, you submit a Beneficiary Claim Form DD2642 with a copy of the receipt and the copayment is considered the billed amount. Deductibles and cost shares are applied and you may not receive full reimbursement of your HMO copayment.

Important Things to Know

- All requirements of the OHI plan must be followed. If the OHI denies a claim because OHI authorization requirements were not followed or because a network provider was not used, TRICARE will also deny the claim and you will be responsible for the denied charges.
- The OHI must process the claim before TRICARE can consider the charges.
- If the OHI denies the claim for services not medically necessary, all appeal rights with the OHI must be used before TRICARE can process the claim.
- Services must be provided by a TRICARE network or non-network provider.



Public Law 115-433: World War II 75th Commemoration Act was signed into law by President Trump on January 10, 2019, ensuring that our veterans are properly recognized, public education of WWII continues and our allies who fought alongside our service members are honored.

During this period, the Department of Defense and each of the Military Services will conduct and participate in a Series of Commemorative Events (<https://www.dvidshub.net/feature/WWII75>), focused on honoring WWII veterans and helping the American people gain a better understanding of their military's history. One major event that this bill authorized is a flyover of the National Mall in Washington, D.C., with WWII-era planes in celebration of the end of WWII in Europe and the Pacific. The flyover will take place on May 8, 2020.

Education via various digital platforms will also be used. Select commemorative observances in Europe and the Pacific will be identified and historical representation of U.S. forces will be approved by the Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs for U.S. participation in overseas commemorative events. The primary commemoration objectives are:

- 1) To thank and honor veterans of WWII, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action, for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans.
- 2) To educate the public about the history of WWII and highlight the service of the Armed Forces during WWII and the contributions of Federal agencies and governmental and nongovernmental organizations that served with, or in support of, Armed Forces.
- 3) To pay tribute to the contributions made on the home front by the people of the United States during WWII.
- 4) To recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by the Allies of the United States during WWII.
- 5) To remember the Holocaust, the annihilation of 6,000,000 Jews by the Nazi regime, and to pay tribute to the Allied troops who liberated Nazi concentration camps during WWII.





TAPS

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

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

COLONEL

ARMSTRONG, RICHARD F. Jul 84/Jul 19
 BOGARD, ROBERT N. Jul 85/Jul 18
 CLARK, ARTHUR L. Sep 96/Mar 19
 CLARK, JR., FRED E. Oct 79/Dec 18
 COFFMAN, RICHARD W. Aug 01/May 19
 FRAZIER, JAMES E. Aug 88/Jan 19
 HARRINGTON, MICHAEL H. Nov 93/May 19
 KELLY, JOSEPH J. Aug 70/May 18
 PICKFORD, THOMAS M. Nov 89/Jun 19
 SANDERSON, JR., JOHN P. Jun 90/Feb 18
 SLOWEY, KENNETH L. Oct 98/May 18
 SNELL, ALBERT W. Mar 74/Dec 18
 TUCKER, PHILLIP E. Oct 91/Jul 19
 WADDELL, BILL D. Aug 91/Aug 19

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

BIEGLER, JAMES L. Nov 74/Nov 17
 BROWN, JAMES C. Jul 77/Mar 19
 EDDY, JR., WALTER L. Jan 61/Sep 18
 ESCALERA, DANIEL C. Jul 79/Jul 19
 HODGES, ERVIN E. Jan 70/Jun 19
 LENHART, RICHARD A. Sep 84/Aug 19
 MANNING, EDWARD M. Jul 91/Jul 19
 O'BRIEN, RICHARD J. Jul 78/Feb 18
 OLSON, JOHN A. Aug 15/Mar 19
 SCHMIDT, BERNARD D. Aug 86/Jul 19
 SWARTZ, JR., JOSEPH A. Oct 89/Mar 18
 YANTORN, JAMES J. Jan 88/May 18

MAJOR

AMAYA, JULIAN Sep 88/Apr 19
 AMIS, THOMAS W. Jul 78/Feb 19

BEALE, JR., FREDERICK T. Jun 92/Aug 19
 BUTLER, PATRICK C. Nov 90/Jul 18
 COMSTOCK, BURTON D. Sep 90/Dec 18
 DYER, CHARLES J. Jul 59/Mar 18
 FERICH, BARRY W. Jul 80/Sep 18
 SAULS IV, REGINALD G. Aug 70/Apr 19
 STEWARD, JR., JOHN A. May 89/May 19
 TURPIN, CHARLES A. Jul 66/Aug 19

CAPTAIN

BARNES, ROBERT J. Jan 71/May 19
 BROWN, DONALD R. Jan 78/May 19
 FAIRBROTHER, JR., MYRL G. Mar 70/Aug 18
 HOBART, ELLIS R. Jun 75/Mar 19
 HUDSON, ANTHONY L. Sep 91/Aug 19
 MAIN, RAYMOND J. Jul 79/Oct 18
 MASSEY, LONNIE M. Jul 59/Mar 19
 YOUNG, KENNETH W. Jul 77/Jun 19

FIRST LIEUTENANT

BEADLE, CONRAD M. Aug 68/Aug 18

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER

BARTON, BERNARD R. CWO4 Jun 77/Jan 19
 MOON, RAYMOND T. CWO4 Mar 96/Jun 19

SERGEANT MAJOR

CANDELARIO, RAFAEL A. Oct 94/Jun 19
 DELEON, FRANCISCO Feb 96/Jun 19
 LILLIE, LEROY E. Dec 93/Aug 19
 SHANNON, KIERNAN M. Apr 68/Oct 17
 SHARPE, HARVEY G. Jun 86/Aug 19
 YEDDO, ROY J. Oct 89/Aug 19



TAPS

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MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT

ANGELL, JOHN A. Oct 81/Jun 19
 BEINE, HERBERT N. Oct 91/Aug 19
 FERNANDEZ, RONALD L. Sep 84/Jul 19
 HERL, MARVIN P. Jan 71/Apr 18
 KNOLL, THOMAS A. Jun 83/Aug 18
 O'DONNELL, LARRY E. Aug 05/May 19
 TONG, RONALD H. Jun 86/Jan 19

FIRST SERGEANT

CAMPER, SANDY H. Oct 91/Jul 19
 DENTON, WILLIAM C. Sep 69/Aug 18
 DESHOTEL, RILEY Sep 68/Nov 18
 FOOTE, EUGENE P. Jul 68/Jun 19
 GUTHRIDGE, RICHARD E. Oct 78/Mar 18
 LINKOUS, DONALD E. Sep 93/Nov 18
 LUEKEMEYER, EDWIN E. Jan 71/Jun 18
 MEAIGE, JR., CHARLES L. Jul 87/May 19
 MITCHUM, HAROLD M. Jun 73/Jun 16
 NASH, WILLIAM E. Dec 68/Mar 19
 PAQUIN, JOSEPH J. Jul 70/Aug 19
 WOODS, JAMES A. Jan 74/Jan 18

MASTER SERGEANT

COMPTON, JAMES A. Jun 98/Sep 18
 DIX, SAMUEL L. Oct 87/May 19
 FOGEL, LUDWIG Sep 68/May 19
 GALLOWAY JR., AUGUSTUS Jun 83/Sep 18
 HARPER, LEONARD E. Jul 82/Apr 19
 KEEFER, JR., CALVIN E. Jan 83/Apr 18
 RENFELD, JERRY L. Feb 81/Apr 18
 SCARLETT, RONNIE L. Nov 83/Jul 19

GUNNERY SERGEANT

ADAMS, WILLIAM L. Dec 76/Apr 19
 ALEXANDER, DAVID C. May 82/Feb 19
 ANDERSON, STANLEY G. Jan 83/Dec 17
 AUBREY, HUBERT E. May 68/Apr 19
 BEISNER, BILLY J. Jan 65/May 19
 BLOOM, RICHARD A. Mar 71/Nov 18
 BURCHAM, CHARLES E. Apr 73/Oct 18
 DUENAS, VICENTE C. Jul 73/May 17
 FAWCETT, JR., JAMES A. Jun 64/Jul 18
 FLORES, JOSE P. Feb 69/Apr 19
 FOWLER, JAMES D. May 81/May 19
 FULTZ, PAUL E. May 74/Oct 18
 GROSCHE, HAROLD L. Jul 80/Dec 18
 MALLETT, JR., CHARLES C. Oct 69/Jul 19
 MORRIS, BILLY L. Jul 80/Jan 19
 MOWBRAY, CLAUDE R. Aug 63/Mar 19
 NEAL, JR., JOHN E. Oct 78/Jul 18
 POE, ALBERT O. Jun 70/Aug 19
 PURDY, ALBERT L. Sep 86/Jul 19
 REYES, WALDO Oct 76/Feb 18
 ROBLES, JOSE Jan 75/Nov 17
 SHARP, MALCOLM E. Nov 17/Jun 19
 THACKER, WILLIAM Jul 77/Aug 19
 THERRELL, NEIL D. Sep 14/Jul 19
 VESSELLS, CHRISTOPHER M. Jun 15/Apr 19
 WILSFORD, ROBERT C. Oct 94/Aug 19
 WISE, MILTON H. Jan 70/Jan 18



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.

STAFF SERGEANT

- HAHN, RICHARD Jul 52/Mar 19
- INGRAM, JOE E. Jul 83/Jan 18
- JONES, ROBERT J. Aug 01/Jan 18
- LIGON, JR., ROBERT A. Jul 00/Jun 19
- LOCKLEY, MOODY C. Jan 61/Jun 19
- STINSON, EARL A. Apr 75/Jan 19
- WILBUR, JOHN M. Aug 66/Jun 19
- WODRICH, STEPHEN W. May 85/Mar 18

SERGEANT

- SCHEB, EDWARD A. Oct 55/Aug 19

CORPORAL

- HARRIS, DANNY L. Feb 75/May 19
- KLETSKY, JAY T. Sep 05/Jun 19

LANCE CORPORAL

- HALFORD, DONALD J. Jul 71/Dec 17
- RONDA-LARACUENTE, ISMAEL Nov 63/Nov 18



Created in recognition of military families and service members, the Scholarships for Military Children awards grants to college students of active-duty, Guard and Reserve or retired military commissary customers.

The Scholarships for Military Children Program is primarily funded through the generosity of manufacturers and suppliers whose products are sold at military commissaries, worldwide. A total of 500 scholarship grants, each for \$2,000, were awarded for the 2019-20 school year. The 2019 program is closed. The 2020 program application period will begin December 15, 2019. All applications must be submitted online for processing.

For more information on opening and closing dates, eligibility and selection criteria, visit the Fisher House website (<https://www.militaryscholar.org/sfmc/index.html>) or, contact Marye Dobson at DeCA (804/734-8000, ext. 52781) or Jim Weiskopf at Fisher House Foundation (202/607-1067).

A total of 500 scholarship grants, each for \$2,000, will be awarded for school year 2020-21. There will be at least one recipient selected at every commissary location where qualified applications are received, and additional recipients will be selected based on a prorated basis, so more applicants will be selected from those commissaries with larger numbers of applicants.



Legacy of Service: October 1 marks 28th year of DeCA delivering commissary benefit

September 26, 2019

Article By Tamara Eastman, DeCA historian

FORT LEE, Va. – On Oct. 1, 1991, the Defense Commissary Agency officially took over the responsibility of providing the commissary benefit to U.S. military members and their families.

“History was made in military resale when DeCA was formed,” said retired Rear Admiral Robert J. Bianchi, DOD special assistant for commissary operations. “And 28 years later we continue to add to that legacy by delivering a much-valued and ever-evolving commissary benefit that meets the changing needs of our patrons.”

The commissary benefit itself has been around since 1825 when Army officers began purchasing goods at cost in Subsistence Department warehouses. The modern concept of commissaries began 42 years later in 1867, when enlisted men were allowed the same shopping privileges that officers had previously enjoyed.

Before DeCA was created, military commissaries were initially run by the individual military installations. After World War II, the individual service branches began running their own commissaries: the U.S. Army Troop Support Agency (TSA), the Navy Resale Support Office (NAVRESSO), the Marine Corps Services Command and the Air Force Commissary Service (AFCOMS). The U.S. Coast Guard operated scaled down stores inside their exchanges.

In 1989, Congress directed the Department of Defense to conduct a study on the separate military systems. As a result it was recommended that the separate systems be consolidated into one agency in order to save money and improve customer services. Thus, the Defense Commissary Agency was established in May 1990 and by October 1, 1991, the agency assumed control of all commissaries.

Over the years those eligible to shop in the commissaries have included active duty in the armed forces and their immediate family members; retirees and their spouses; active duty Reserves and National Guard; honorably discharged veterans with a 100 percent service-connected disability; and recipients of the Medal of Honor.

The list of eligible beneficiaries grew in 2018 with the addition of DeCA civilian employees. It expands again on January 1, 2020, with all disabled veterans, Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war and their caregivers being eligible for the benefit.

“Our mission is to offer the best savings possible and maintain the relevance of the commissary benefit,” Bianchi said. “That was true in 1991 and it remains so today, as our dedicated store associates and headquarters staffs continue a proud tradition of service to our military.”



Beginning on January 1, 2020, the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act of 2019, extends commissary and exchange privileges, including access to some morale, welfare, and recreation facilities, to service-connected disabled veterans, Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war and primary veteran caregivers.

This is the largest patronage expansion in more than 65 years and will increase the number of customers by 50 percent to approximately 3 million.

Disabled veterans will use their veterans' health ID card (VHIC) to enter the stores.

Prior to January 1, 2020, the DoD will issue additional guidance for other eligible beneficiaries (e.g., caregivers etc.) regarding access to installations and activation of the benefit.

VAPPING PRODUCTS

SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THESE PRODUCTS

E-cigarettes are sometimes called “e-cigs,” “vapes,” “e-hookahs,” “vape pens,” and “electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS).” Some e-cigarettes look like regular cigarettes, cigars, or pipes. Some look like USB flash drives, pens, and other everyday items.



The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), state and local health departments, and other clinical and public health partners are investigating a multistate outbreak of lung injury associated with e-cigarette product (devices, liquids, refill pods, and/or cartridges) use.

E-cigarettes work by heating a liquid to produce an aerosol that users inhale into their lungs. The liquid can contain: nicotine, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabinoid (CBD) oils, and other substances and additives.

There may be no smoke involved, however, the “water vapor” that is emitted from these devices is not as harmless as you think. In reality, the “water vapor” is actually an aerosol (like hair spray) that contains chemicals like formaldehyde (used to preserve dead specimens) and acrolein (a nasal irritant). Just because you may not be able to smell it like you would smoke, doesn’t mean it’s not harmful. Some manufacturers market their products as safe because they use food flavorings or glycerin which they say meets the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) definition of “Generally Recognized As Safe” (GRAS). However, that definition does not apply to food additives being inhaled. Also, there are currently no regulations for how much, or which kinds, of chemicals are okay to use in cartridges.

New ways to use tobacco are found just as quickly as new products hit the market; so if you haven’t heard of “**Dripping**,” you’re not alone.

With teenager’s use of electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) on the rise, like e-cigarettes or vape pens, they have experimented with new ways to get stronger hits of nicotine.



“**Dripping**” is the act of manually applying the liquid from an ENDS cartridge - typically called “e-liquid”- directly to the coils of an e-cigarette or other vaporizer product in order to produce thick clouds of vapor. In a recent study among high school students in Connecticut, about a fourth of ENDS users said they had hacked the device to allow dripping to get a stronger throat hit and to make bigger clouds of vapor. Tobacco manufacturers have also caught on to the dripping trend and have begun making vaping devices and e-cigarettes with exposed coils so users can apply the e-liquid directly without necessarily taking the device apart.

Dripping can expose the nicotine liquid to higher temperatures than normal which can release higher levels of the carcinogens found in e-liquid. Direct exposure or ingestion of nicotine has also been documented to cause vomiting, increased heart rate and blood pressure, paralysis of the muscles that control breathing and death.

Because ENDS have only recently become regulated by the Food and Drug Administration, there is still much that is unknown about these products so it’s not a good idea to use these devices until more is known about their safety and whether the chemicals in e-liquid are toxic.



**U. S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People

CDC, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), state and local health departments, and other clinical and public health partners are investigating a multistate outbreak of lung injury associated with e-cigarette product (devices, liquids, refill pods, and/or cartridges) use.

- There are 530 cases of lung injury reported from 38 states and 1 U.S. territory. Seven deaths have been confirmed in 6 states.
- CDC has received complete sex and age data on 373 of 530 cases.
- Nearly three fourths (72%) of cases are male
- Two thirds (67%) of cases are 18 to 34 years old
- 16% of cases are under 18 years and 17% are 35 years or older
- All reported cases have a history of e-cigarette product use or vaping. No consistent evidence of an infectious cause has been discovered. Therefore, the suspected cause is a chemical exposure.
- Based on initial data from certain states we know: Most patients have reported a history of using e-cigarette products containing THC. Many patients have reported using THC and nicotine. Some have reported the use of e-cigarette products containing only nicotine.
- CDC does not yet know the specific cause of these lung injuries. The investigation has not identified any specific e-cigarette or vaping product (devices, liquids, refill pods, and/or cartridges) or substance that is linked to all cases.

What CDC recommends:

- If you are concerned about these specific health risks, CDC recommends that you consider refraining from using e-cigarette or vaping products.
- If you are an adult who used e-cigarettes containing nicotine to quit cigarette smoking, do not return to smoking cigarettes.
- If you have recently used an e-cigarette or vaping product and you have symptoms like those reported in this outbreak see a healthcare provider.
- Anyone who uses an e-cigarette or vaping product should not buy these products (e.g., e-cigarette or vaping products with THC or CBD oils) off the street, and should not modify or add any substances to these products that are not intended by the manufacturer.
- Youth and young adults should not use e-cigarette products.
- Women who are pregnant should not use e-cigarette products.
- Adults who do not currently use tobacco products should not start using e-cigarette products.

Effective October 1, 2019, Army, Air Force, and Navy Exchange concessionaires and vendors will be prohibited from selling e-cigarettes and vaping products. The Marine Corp Exchange has not yet made a decision to remove and prohibit the sale of vaping products.

2019 Retired & Annuity Pay Dates

To help you plan for 2019, below is a list of the days you should expect to receive your retired or annuitant pay. Retired and annuitant pay is disbursed 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 current or prior month. Please see the chart for each month in 2019.

<u>Entitlement Month</u>	<u>Retiree Pay Date</u>	<u>Annuitant Pay Date</u>
September 2019	October 1, 2019	October 1, 2019
October 2019	November 1, 2019	November 1, 2019
November 2019	November 29, 2019	December 2, 2019
December 2019	December 31, 2019	January 2, 2020

NATIONAL HELPLINE

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) **1-800-662-HELP**

OPIOID SAFETY

COMMON PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS

- Hydrocodone
- Oxycodone
- Oxymorphone
- Morphine
- Codeine
- Fentanyl
- Methadone

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Always follow the directions and remain under the care of your doctor:

- Don't take extra doses
- Don't mix with alcohol or other drugs
- Dispose of unused medication properly

SIGNS OF OVERDOSE

Misuse can be dangerous and potentially deadly.

- Pale, clammy skin
- Deep snoring or gurgling/rattling
- Unresponsive to sound and touch
- Slow or no heart rate or pulse
- Blue lips and/or fingertips

MHS Military Health System health.mil

To learn more, visit: www.health.mil/OpioidSafety

SAMHSA's National Helpline, 1-800-662-HELP (4357), (also known as the Treatment Referral Routing Service) or TTY: 1-800-487-4889 is a confidential, free, 24-hour-a-day, 365-day-a-year, information service, in English and Spanish, for individuals and family members facing mental and/or substance use disorders. This service provides referrals to local treatment facilities, support groups, and community-based organizations. Callers can also order free publications and other information.

[SAMHSA's Behavioral Health Treatment Services Locator](#) [external icon](#)

What is substance abuse treatment? Download a booklet for families: <https://store.samhsa.gov/product/What-Is-Substance-Abuse-Treatment-A-Booklet-for-Families/SMA14-4126>

TRICARE offers substance use disorder treatment: <https://www.tricare.mil/CoveredServices/IsItCovered/SubstanceUseDisorderTreatment>



2019 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.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
18-Oct	Quantico, VA	703-784-4963
18-19 Oct	Ft Bragg, NC	910-643-9662/396-8591
19-Oct	Ft Wainwright, AK	907-353-2095
19-Oct	USAG Benelux, Belgium	0032-65-44-6293
19-Oct	Naval Submarine Base New London	860-694-3284
19-Oct	NAS Pensacola, FL (Seminar)	850-452-5622
19-Oct	Ft Riley, KS	785-239-3320
19-Oct	Ft Polk, LA	337-531-0363
19-Oct	Offutt, AFB	402-294-2590/4566
19-Oct	Scott AFB, IL	618-256-5092
19-Oct	Whiteman AFB, MO	660-687-6457
25-Oct	Fairchild AFB, WA	509-247-5359
25-Oct	Ft Knox, KY	502-624-1765
25-Oct	Ft Rucker, AL	334-255-9124/9739
25-Oct	Ft Meade, MD	301-677-9603
25-Oct	Wright-Patterson AFB, OH	937-257-3592
25-26 Oct	Ft Hood, TX	254-287-5210
26-Oct	Dover AFB, DE	302-677-4611
26-Oct	Ft Leavenworth, KS	913-684-5583
26-Oct	Ft Hamilton, Brooklyn, NY	718-630-4552
26-Oct	Luke AFB, AZ	623-856-3923
26-Oct	Travis AFB, CA	707-424-3904
01-Nov	Ft Benning, GA	706-545-1805
02-Nov	Ft Gordon, GA	706-791-2654/4774/1950
02-Nov	NAS Lemoore, CA	559-998-4524
02-Nov	Schofield Barracks, HI	808-655-1514
02-Nov	Tinker AFB, OK	405-739-2795
15-Nov	Travis AFB, CA	707-424-3904
16-Nov	JBSA Randolph, AFB	210-652-6880/5778

Experience camaraderie and esprit de corps at a Retiree Appreciation Day. To view these events and others visit: <http://www.hostmtb.org/RADs and Other Retiree-Veterans Events.html>.

USMC REUNIONS



ORGANIZATION/POC	DATE	PHONE	EMAIL/WEB
ANGLICO Association All Eras CWO4 Joe L. Luque (Ret.)	3 - 6 Oct 2019 Denver, CO	(661) 725-3415	jlluque@sbcglobal.net Facebook/ANGLICOAssociation
Navy-Marine Corps Retired Judge Advocate Association BGen David Hague (Ret.) Capt George Wells USN (Ret.)	4 - 6 Oct 2019 Portland, OR		david.hagueusmc@gmail.com nmcraa8@comcast.net http://www.bill2va.info/
7th Motor Transport Delta Co	9 - 13 Oct 2019 Branson, MO	(660) 438-0745	lloydcabra@yahoo.com
TBS Class of 3-89 30 Year Reunion Col Ly Fecteau LtCol Whitney Mason (Ret.)	18 - 19 Oct 2019 Quantico, VA	(910) 451-3685	whitneymason@comcast.net
1st Bn 7th Marines All Hands Bill Pedrick Dave Jones	25 - 26 Oct 2019 Las Vegas, NV	(775) 275-0804 (405) 255-7261	bill.pedrick@gmail.com
USMC Vietnam Tankers Association John Wear	31 Oct - 4 Nov 2019 Seattle, WA	(719) 495-5998	johnwear2@verizon.net http://www.usmcvta.org/
VMFA-251 Reunion VMO/VMA/VMF/VMFA-251 from 1941 to present. Family welcome.	7 - 10 Nov 2019 N. Charleston, SC	(404) 944-1268	frenchy@vmfa251.org
Marine Forces Reserve Jimmy L. Porter	8 - 10 Nov 2019 New Orleans, LA	(225) 803-8572	marine_35@yahoo.com
MCAGCC all units 1978-1982 Maj Stew Rayfield (Ret.)	7 - 9 Feb 2020 Twentynine Palms, CA		ironmajor@gmail.com Facebook.com https://www.facebook.com/Twentynine-Palms-Reunion-all-units-1978-1982-444688063010228/?modal=admin_todo_tour RSVP NLT 1 Nov 2019
TBS Class of 3-70 Reunion Paul Perra	9 - 14 Feb 2020	(978) 381-4746	pperra@icloud.com

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

USMC REUNIONS



ORGANIZATION/POC	DATE	PHONE	EMAIL/WEB
TBS Class 1-80, Alpha Co Reunion LtCol Jerry Sneed (Ret.) Ken Wilcox	27 - 30 Apr 2020 Planning stages Quantico, VA	(504) 717-7037 (865) 705-8933	jwsneed70@gmail.com kl.wilcox@hotmail.com
TBS Class 6-70 Fox Co Col Tom Kanasky, Jr. (Ret.) Mitch Youngs	30 Apr - 3 May 2020 Quantico, VA	(203) 366-3156 (703) 493-9435	tlkanasky@earthlink.net mitchyoungs@verizon.net
Marine Expeditionary Brigade Afghanistan (2009-2010) 10-Year Reunion	1 - 3 May 2020		taskforceleatherneck@gmail.com Facebook: 2dMEBAfghanistan https://marines.togetherweserved.com/usmc/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ViweReunion%&type=Reunion&ID=671
Marine Barracks Marine Corps Security Force Co NWS Concord, CA Col Paul Adams (Ret.)	19 - 21 June 2020	(651) 278-7118	paul91103@comcast.net Facebook: Marine Barracks/Marine Corps Security Force Co NWS CA
E 2/5 Vietnam Pat Lisi	5 - 9 Oct 2020 Las Vegas, UT	(435) 215-3090	patlisigmac@gmail.com
TBS Class 1-77 A Co Paul Leblanc	15 - 19 Oct 2020	(619) 417-4306	pepelb@aol.com
TBS 3/67 & 41st OCC Col Robert Wright (Ret.) Paul Disario	22 - 25 Oct 2020	(510) 333-3165 (559) 273-9549	rbwright1@mac.com pdisario@comcast.net
TBS Class 6-71, "Fox Co" 50th Reunion Col Doug Holdstein (Ret.)	Jan - Feb 2022 Planning stages	(910) 270-4144	jholdstein@gmail.com

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

JUST A PINCH

For only a couple seconds of discomfort, you get an entire year's worth of protection from:

- Fever
- Aches
- Sore Throat
- Runny Nose
- Coughing
- Sneezing
- Much More

CDC recommends everyone 6 months and older get a flu vaccine by the end of October.

TRICARE covers the flu vaccine.

Get your flu shot today!

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

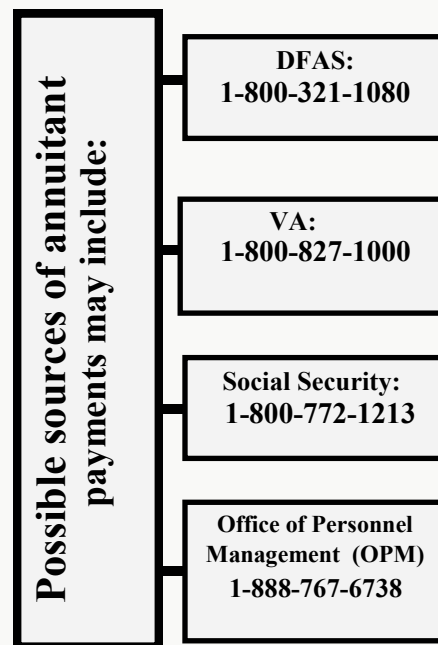
Indianapolis, IN 46249-1300

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) 604-6885 (Navy/Marine Corps).

If you believe DFAS paid you incorrectly for your Correction of Record, provide documentation with a handwritten signature explaining why you are protesting the amount to:

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

Steps to Take When a Retired Marine Dies

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/webcenter/portal/MF_MPS_CA/MilitaryFuneralHonors?_afLoop=1698068779136830#!%40%40%3F_afLoop%3D1698068779136830%26_adf.ctrl-state%3D1bpb10pnxz_137

MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS FOR BURIALS AT ANC

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

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

Agencies Providing Aid and Assistance To Surviving Spouses



Arlington National Cemetery: (703) 607-8000
 Gold Star Wives of America: 1-888-751-6350, www.goldstarwives.org
 Military Funeral Honors: 1-866-826-3628 or (703) 432-9524
 Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society: (703) 696-4904, www.nmcers.org
 National Military Families Association: 1-800-260-0218, www.nmfa.org
 Society of Military Widows: 1-800-842-3451, www.militarywidows.org/home.aspx
 Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors: 1-800-959-8277, www.taps.org



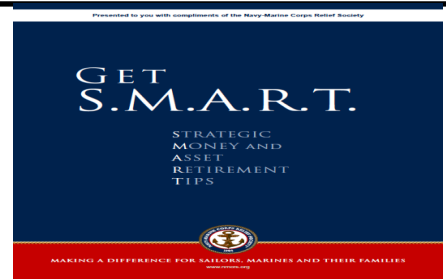
SOME THINGS YOU WILL NEED TO DO:

- 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)

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

No doubt your financial requirements and responsibilities are very different from when you were on active duty. The Society provides retirees a useful guide: Strategic Money and Asset Retirement Tips.

Download your free **GET S.M.A.R.T.** guide at:
www.myimpactwithnmcers.org/getsmart





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

Inns of the Corps Yuma
(928) 269-2262

MCB Camp Pendleton

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

MCB Camp Pendleton

Inns of the Corps - Ward Lodge
(760) 725-5304

MCAS Miramar

Inns of the Corps Miramar
(858) 271-7111

MCAGCC Twentynine Palms

Inns of the Corps Twentynine Palms
(760) 830-6583

MCB Hawaii

Inns of the Corps Hawaii
(808) 254-2806

MCB Camp Lejeune

Inns of the Corps Lejeune
(910) 451-3041

MCAS Beaufort

Inns of the Corps Beaufort
(843) 522-1663

MCB Quantico

Inns of the Corps Quantico
(703) 630-4444

MCB Camp Butler Okinawa

Inns of the Corps Butler Westpac
Phone from USA: 011-81-611-745-2455

MCB Camp Butler Okinawa

Inns of the Corps Butler Courtney
Phone from USA: 011-81-611-722-9578

MCB Camp Butler Okinawa

Inns of the Corps Butler Hansen
Phone from USA: 011-81-611-723-4511

MCS Iwakuni

Inns of the Corps of Iwakuni
Phone from USA: 011-81-827-79-3221

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



Directory Assistance Pages - - - - -

A

AMC PASSENGER TERMINAL:

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

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY:

(703) 607-8000

www.arlingtoncemetery.mil

ARMED FORCES RECREATION CENTERS:

www.armymwr.com/travel/recreationcenters/

- **Edelweiss Lodge and Resort (Germany):**
(011-49) 8821-9440

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

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOMES

(GULFPORT):

Gulfport, MS: (228) 897-4418

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

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOMES

(WASHINGTON):

Washington, DC: (202) 541-7501

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

AWARDS:

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

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

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

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

B

BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS:

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

Arlington, VA 22204-2490

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

www.donhq.navy.mil/bcncr/bcncr.htm

C

CAMP LEJEUNE NOTIFICATION REGISTRY:

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

COLD WAR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM:

Attn: AHRC-PDP-A, Dept. 480, USAHRC
1600 Spearhead Division Ave.

Ft. Knox, KY 40122-5408

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

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

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

COMBAT-RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION:

SECNAV CRSC Board

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

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

CRSC@navy.mil

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

D

DD 214s:

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

National Personnel Records Center

1 Archives Dr., St. Louis, MO 63138

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

PR.center@nara.gov; www.archives.gov/st-louis

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

Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMRP)-10

2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5030

1-800-268-3710; smb.manpower.mmrp@usmc.mil

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE:

1-800-321-1080, www.dfas.mil

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

DFAS Special Compensation for the Severely Disabled:

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

(216) 522-6170

E

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

F

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

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

M

MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION:

715 Broadway St., Quantico, VA 22134

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

mca@mca-marines.org

- **Leatherneck Magazine**

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

leatherneck@mca-marines.org

- **Marine Corps Gazette**

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

gazette@mca-marines.org

Directory Assistance Pages

MARINE BARRACKS WASHINGTON:

8th and I, Washington, DC, www.barracks.marines.mil

MARINE CORPS HISTORY DIVISION:

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

MARINE CORPS JUNIOR ROTC TECOM (C46JR):

1019 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5001
(703) 784-3706, www.mcjrotc.org

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE NATIONAL HQ:

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

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

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

MCCS COMMUNITY SERVICES: www.usmc-mccs.org

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

VA Records Management Center

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

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

MEDICARE: 1-800-633-4227; www.medicare.gov

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

18900 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Triangle, VA 22172
1-877-653-1775; www.usmcmuseum.org

NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER

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

NAVY LODGE WORLDWIDE RESERVATIONS CENTER:

1-800-NAVY-INN, www.navy-lodge.com

NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY:

875 N. Randolph Road Street, Suite 225, Arlington, VA 22203
1-800-654-8364; <http://www.nmcrs.org>

Q**QUANTICO NATIONAL CEMETERY:**

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

S**SISTER SERVICE RETIREE PUBLICATIONS:**

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

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

- **Coast Guard Evening Colors:** www.uscg.mil/ppc/retnews

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

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION: 1-800-772-1213, www.ssa.gov

SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN:

www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/provide/sbp.html

T

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

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

- **East:** 1- 800-444-5445; <https://www.humanamilitary.com/east/>
- **West:** 1-844-866-9378; <https://www.tricare-west.com>
- **Overseas:** 1-888-777-8343; <https://www.tricare-overseas.com>
- **Health Beneficiary Counseling Assistance Coordinator:** <https://tricare.mil//bcaedcao>

TRICARE for LIFE: 1-866-773-0404;
www.tricare4u.com

TRICARE Network Pharmacy Program:

1-877-363-1303;
<https://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/index.shtml>

TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery: 1-877-363-1296;
<https://tricare.mil/homedelivery>

U

UNIFORM SUPPORT CENTER: 1-800-368-4088; Fax
your DD 214 to 1-800-551-6289 before placing order.

V

VA: 1-800-827-1000, www.va.gov

VA EDUCATION: 1-888-442-4551, www.gibill.va.gov

VA LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAMS:

1-800-669-8477, www.insurance.va.gov

VA SGLI/VGLI: 1-800-419-1473

VA STATUS OF HEADSTONES AND MARKERS:

1-800-697-6947

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

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Access your newsletter online at <https://www.hqmc.marines.mil/Agencies/Manpower-Reserve-Affairs-MMSR-6/>

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WHO TO CONTACT:

MMSR-2: (703) 784-9324/25/26

Active Duty Separation and Retirement

- **Officer** smb.manpower.mmsr2o@usmc.mil
- **Enlisted**
smb.manpower.mmsr2e@usmc.mil



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

Disability Separation, Retirement and Limited Duty

smb.manpower.mmsr4@usmc.mil

MMSR-5: (703) 784-9306/07

Inactive Reserve Separation and Retirement

smb.manpower.mmsr5@usmc.mil

MMSR-6: (703) 784-9311; 1-800-336-4649

Fax: (703) 784-9834

Retired Services and Pay

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

smb.manpower.mmsr6@usmc.mil

