

# SEMPER FIDELIS

## MEMORANDUM FOR RETIRED MARINES

Headquarters Marine Corps (MMSR-6) ☆ 3280 Russell Rd., Quantico, Va. 22134-5103  
1-800-336-4649 (703) 784-9310 ☆ fax: (703) 784-9834

## TRICARE Prime Increase

New TRICARE Prime enrollment fees for uniformed service retirees and their families will begin on Oct. 1, 2012. Retirees who were enrolled before Oct. 1, 2011, will see a more significant increase since their enrollment fee remained at the 2011 levels of \$230 and \$460 per year when the fees increased last year.

The National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2012 allows for the annual increase of TRICARE Prime enrollment fees for most retired beneficiaries based on the annual cost of living adjustment. Exceptions to annual increases are for survivors of active-duty deceased sponsors and medically-retired service members and their dependents (see "Annual Increases" below for more information). Here is how the increase will affect you:

If enrolled before Oct. 1, 2011:

What You Pay Now	Beginning Oct. 1, 2012
Individual: \$230 per year Family: \$460 per year	Individual: \$269.28 per year Family: \$538.56 per year

If enrolled on or after Oct. 1, 2011 (including all new enrollments):

What You Pay Now	Beginning Oct. 1, 2012
Individual: \$260 per year Family: \$520 per year	Individual: \$269.28 per year Family: \$538.56 per year

**Paying Enrollment Fees.** You can opt to pay your fees annually, quarterly, or monthly. Before deciding to pay annually, please keep in mind that in most cases, enrollment fees are non-refundable. In addition, as new enrollment fees were calculated under current law, these amounts could change when Congress passes a FY 2013 budget. It is recommended you pay monthly or quarterly. The following links provide more information about your region-specific payment options:

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TRICARE Prime Increase, Page 6, Col. 1

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**\*\*Early Edition\*\***

We are publishing the last edition for calendar year 2012 early because we have funding now that may not be available after the start of the new fiscal year in October. Subject to FY13 funding, we will publish and mail the Commandant's 237th Birthday Message.

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# Table of Contents

**5** Special Extra Earnings for Military Service

**8** TRICARE News: TRICARE and Medicare (Part D)

**9** DFAS News: Treasury Mandates Electronic Pay by March 1, 2013



**10** United States Marine Corps Ranks and Grades, 1775-1969

**11** NIH Health News: Dementia

**13** Nearly 75 Years Ago...

**“You do not need to enroll in a Medicare (Part D) prescription drug plan to keep your TRICARE benefits...”**

*Read more about it on page 8.*

## Corrections: Volume 56, No. 3



**Cover article:** World War II African-American Marines Receive Congressional Gold Medal, *photo of Howard P. Perry as the first Marine to enlist at Montford Point -*

One reader wrote:

“...This is slightly incorrect. The first African American to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps was a gentleman by the name of Alfred Masters... Most of the over 19,000 African Americans to enter the Corps between 1942 through 1949, who received the recruit training at Montford Point (now Camp Johnson) pretty much know that Masters was the first to enlist. Mr. Perry was the second person to be enlisted and the first to arrive at Montford Point Camp to begin recruit trianing. I think Masters arrived the same day but after Perry.”

**Cover article:** World War II African American Marines Receive Congressional Gold Medal, *quotation from William McDowell:* “African Americans were not allowed to serve in any wars until World War II in 1942...”

Another reader wrote:

“...African-Americans were not allowed to serve in the Marine Corps until WWII, but African-Americans served in the US Army since the Revolutionary War and in the Navy in WWI.”

*Semper Fidelis regrets the error and thanks everyone for their feedback on this article.*

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SEMPER FIDELIS STAFF: Tanya L. Ramey, Writer-Editor

## **Rising Tide of Compensation Claims Prompts Major VA Transformation**

By Under Secretary for Benefits Allison A. Hickey

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Every year for the past four years, the Department of Veterans Affairs has received well over one million claims from veterans requesting disability compensation for injuries or illness connected to their military service. This represents a near 50% increase in claims receipts for VA. As one would expect, many of these come from veterans of the recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, but just as many are coming from aging Vietnam veterans. Nearly half of all claimants are already receiving benefits and most are requesting additional compensation for new or worsening conditions. At the same time, VA is doing a much better job reaching out and educating veterans about their benefits. As a result, VA has struggled to keep up with the ever-increasing demand. Despite processing an unprecedented one million claims two years in a row, the inventory of active claims has reached nearly 900,000. Those claims that have not been decided within 125 days, currently over 500,000, are considered “backlogged.”

Obviously, this is unacceptable to both veterans and to VA.

While it may be of little comfort to veterans awaiting benefits, they should know that action is being taken that will eliminate the backlog, and improve benefits delivery. First, VA continues to add to its workforce of specialists who process and decide compensation claims, and is implementing enhanced training that has increased speed and accuracy. Twelve hundred rating specialists, who for the past two years, were focused on the re-adjudication of claims related to Agent Orange exposure for Vietnam veterans, have finished their work and can now tackle the backlog.

Second, VA is retooling its claims processes to optimize productivity. New claims management techniques categorize claims so that those with sufficient medical and service information move quickly, separated from those that require follow-on medical evaluations and extensive record gathering to lawfully grant. The new processes also flag those claims from veterans with severe wounds or injuries, or are facing homelessness, or are suffering debilitating effects of military sexual trauma, to make sure they get special handling.

These manpower and management improvements are important but cannot by themselves close the processing deficit. At the heart of solving the backlog of claims is to move from World War II-era, paper-bound procedures to a 21st century digital information environment. This includes the “front end” interface with veterans and their advocates, as well as the IT infrastructure to support the exchange of massive amounts of data nationwide. VA is improving its “relationship management” processes with veterans through its online portal eBenefits, [www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov), which provides 24/7 benefit access. A new electronic claim filing platform pre-populates information and steps veterans through the submission process, similar to online tax filing. VA’s national call centers will be linked to multiple databases with better visibility of veterans’ records to answer questions.

VA has also tested and is fielding technology in its regional offices that give VA staff the ability to establish complete claims folders electronically and convert existing paper files to digits. New web-accessible software has rules-based calculators to ensure consistency across the enterprise and improve quality and timeliness. VA is currently deploying these changes to its regional offices, and is scheduled to fully transform to the new operating model in 2013. While the problem of veterans waiting too long to receive their well-deserved benefits is not new, there is a tremendous sense of urgency within VA, and across the federal government, to solve it. We are convinced that making these people, process and technology investments will bring benefits delivery into the 21st century and help VA uphold the nations’ commitment to its veterans.

*Allison A. Hickey is the Under Secretary for Benefits at the Veterans Benefits Administration.*

## **Combat Related Special Compensation and Concurrent Retirement Disability Payments**

There are two concurrent receipt programs available to Navy and Marine Corps retirees who have VA-rated disabilities: Concurrent Retirement and Disability Payments program and the Combat Related Special Compensation program. Retirees who receive VA disability payments have their retired pay “offset” (reduced) by the amount of VA pay. These programs “restore” some or all of that retired pay. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service calculates and pays monthly CRDP and CRSC compensation program.

Disabled retirees must be eligible for retired pay and in receipt of VA disability compensation. Medical retirees with less than 20 years of service are eligible for CRSC only. Twenty-year and Temporary Early Retirement Authority retirees (15-19 years of service) are eligible for both CRSC and CRDP. Retirees, eligible for both programs, can receive compensation from only one of them. Applicants must apply to the service CRSC Board from which they retired.

CRDP is automatic and is paid to 20-year and TERA retirees who have VA-rated service connected disabilities of 50% or higher. There is no application required. DFAS determines eligibility and pays monthly CRDP compensation. CRDP is being phased in over 10 years and in 2012, is 99% phased-in. CRDP payments are taxed.

CRSC is for military retirees with combat-related disabilities of 10% or greater. Combat-related determinations are made by the CRSC Board for the branch of service from which the member retired. A combat-related determination is made for each disability that is claimed. The retiree must apply using the CRSC application form (DD 2860, July 2011). The “burden of proof” is on the claimant and the claim should include the member’s DD 214, VA rating decisions, applicable service medical records, the PEB findings

letter (for medical retirees) and pertinent service personnel records. Reconsiderations are accepted if new documentary evidence as to the cause of the disability is provided or for any new disabilities rated by the VA. Appeal authority for CRSC is the Board for Correction of Naval Records.

CRSC compensation for medical retirees is calculated by DFAS using a complicated formula that takes into account the PEB, VA, and CRSC percentages. CRSC pay can never exceed what would have been the years of service retirement amount, but can be much less and sometimes zero. CRSC pay is not taxed. Medical retirees can go to [www.dfas.mil/militarymembers/woundedwarrior/disabledretireest.htm](http://www.dfas.mil/militarymembers/woundedwarrior/disabledretireest.htm) to determine the approximate CRSC pay they will receive.

Applicants may apply for CRSC under one of four categories:

1. Direct result of armed conflict,
2. While engaged in hazardous service,
3. In the performance of duty under conditions simulating war, and
4. Disabilities resulting from the operation of an instrumentality of war.

For a CRSC claim to be approved, there must be a direct causal relationship between the armed conflict or training exercise that simulates war and the resulting disability. The CRSC Board only considers VA rated service-connected disabilities. Slips, trips, and falls, lifting heavy objects, as well as physical training, are not combat-related disabilities. The fact that a veteran incurred a disability during a period of war or simulated war, or in an area of armed or simulated conflict, or while participating in combat or simulated combat operations, is not sufficient to support a combat-related determination. Only the CRSC Board for each branch of service is authorized to make combat-related determinations. “Combat Zone” notations in VA and PEB documents are not combat-related determinations.

The VA has added three new disabilities “presumptive to Agent Orange.” They are Ischemic

heart disease, Parkinson's disease, and certain forms of Leukemia. If you are a Vietnam veteran who was "boots on the ground" or in a riverine or a "brown water" Sailor in Vietnam, those disabilities "presumptive to AO" are combat related.

Retroactive payments are paid for by CRSC, but CRSC compensation is subject to the six-year barring statute. DFAS or the VA can pay back pay/VA Retro back six years from your application, but can go no further back than the VA effective date, 60th birthdate for reserve retirees, or the applicable CRSC program effective date.

The primary means of communication with the Board is email: [CRSC@navy.mil](mailto:CRSC@navy.mil). If you would like a call from the CRSC Board, send an email with your phone number.

Additional Contact Information:

**DoN CRSC Board Secretary of the Navy  
Council of Review Boards  
Combat-Related Special Compensation Board  
720 Kennon St. SE, Suite 309  
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5023**

**Fax: (202) 685-6610  
Voicemail: (202) 685-1683  
[www.donhq.navy.mil/corb/crscb/  
crscmainpage.htm](http://www.donhq.navy.mil/corb/crscb/crscmainpage.htm)**

Please review the CRSC website before applying or contacting the Board!

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## **Special Extra Earnings for Military Service**

Since 1957, if you had military service earnings for active duty (including active duty for training), you paid Social Security taxes on those earnings. Since 1988, inactive duty service in the Armed Forces reserves (such as weekend drills) has also been covered by Social Security. Under certain circumstances, special extra earnings for your military service from 1957 through 2001 can be credited to your record for Social Security

purposes. These extra earnings credits may help you qualify for Social Security or increase the amount of your Social Security benefit.

Special extra earnings credits are granted for periods of active duty or active duty for training. Special extra earnings credits are not granted for inactive duty training.

If your active military service occurred:

- From 1957 through 1967, Social Security will add the extra credits to your record when you apply for Social Security benefits.
- From 1968 through 2001, you do not need to do anything to receive these extra credits. The credits were automatically added to your record.
- After 2001, there are no special extra earnings credits for military service.

**Note:** In January 2002, Public Law 107-117, the Defense Appropriations Act, stopped the special extra earnings that have been credited to military service personnel. Military service in calendar year 2002 and future years no longer qualifies for these special extra earnings credits

**How you get credit for Special Extra Earnings.** The information that follows applies only to active-duty military service earnings from 1957 through 2001. Here is how the special extra earnings are credited on your record:

**Service in 1957 through 1977.** You are credited with \$300 in additional earnings for each calendar quarter in which you received active duty basic pay.

**Service in 1978 through 2001.** For every \$300 in active duty basic pay, you are credited with an additional \$100 in earnings up to a maximum of \$1,200 a year. If you enlisted after Sept. 7, 1980, and did not complete at least 24 months of active duty or your full tour, you may not be able to receive the additional earnings. Check with Social Security for details at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) or call 1-800-772-1213.

**TRICARE Prime Increase, Cover Page**

- **North:** <https://www.hnfs.com/content/hnfs/home/tn/bene/enroll/fees/payments.html>
- **South:** [www.humana-military.com/south/bene/billing-enrollment/PaymentOptions.asp](http://www.humana-military.com/south/bene/billing-enrollment/PaymentOptions.asp)
- **West:** [www.triwest.com/en/beneficiary/enrollmentbenefits/epay/](http://www.triwest.com/en/beneficiary/enrollmentbenefits/epay/)

You may be charged a fee of up to \$20 for insufficient or unavailable funds.

<b>Annual Payment</b>	<p>Individual: \$269.28 Family: \$538.56</p> <p>You will pay the annual payment in one lump sum. When you submit your enrollment form, your contractor will prorate the fee from your enrollment date to September 30th. After that, your annual payment is due on October 1 each year. Annual payments are only accepted by credit card in the North and South Regions. Payments in the West region may be made by credit card or check.</p>
<b>Quarterly Payment</b>	<p>Individual: \$67.32 Family: \$134.64</p> <p>Quarterly payments are equal to 1/4 of the annual fee amount. When you submit your enrollment form, your contractor will prorate the quarterly fee to cover the period until the next fiscal year quarter (January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1). After that, your quarterly payment is due at the first of each quarter.</p> <p>Quarterly payments are only accepted by credit card in the North and South Regions. Payments in the West region may be made by credit card or check.</p>
<b>Monthly Payment</b>	<p>Individual: \$22.44 Family: \$44.88</p> <p>Monthly payments are equal to 1/12 of the annual fee amount. Your first quarterly payment can be paid with a personal check, cashier’s check, traveler’s check, money order, or credit card. After that, monthly enrollment fees must be paid with either an allotment from retired pay or through an electronic funds transfer from your designated financial institution, which includes a debit or credit card.</p> <p>If you select the monthly payment option, you will be required to pay your first quarterly payment (Individual: \$67.32/Family: \$134.64) when you submit your enrollment form to allow time for the allotment or EFT to be established.</p> <p>Note: TriWest is still accepting checks for monthly payments in the West Region.</p>

**Annual Increases.** TRICARE Prime enrollment fees are subject to increase each fiscal year based on the annual cost-of-living adjustment that occurs each calendar year to determine retired military pay. The only beneficiaries who are exempt from the enrollment fee increases each year are those classified as either survivors of active-duty deceased sponsors or medically-retired uniformed service members and their dependents.

The fee remains frozen at the rate in effect when the active duty survivor or medically retired member is classified in DEERS in either category and enrolled in Prime, as long as there is a continuous Prime enrollment.

<b>If enrolled before Oct. 1, 2011:</b>	Individual: \$230/year Family: \$460/year
<b>If enrolled on or after Oct. 1, 2011 but before Oct. 1, 2012:</b>	Individual: \$260 per year Family: \$520 per year
<b>If enrolled on or after Oct. 1, 2012:</b>	Individual: \$269.28/year Family: \$538.56/year

### TRICARE Young Adult

TRICARE Young Adult costs are based on three things:

1. The option you select when you enroll: Prime or Standard,
2. Your sponsor’s military status, and
3. Where the care is received.

**Monthly Premiums.** To participate, you must pay monthly premiums. TRICARE Young Adult premium rates are established annually on a calendar year basis. The current monthly premium amounts are as follows for each option:

- Prime Option: \$201 per month
- Standard Option: \$176 per month
- Initial Premium Payment

Currently, an initial premium payment (equal to three months) can be paid by personal check, cashier’s check, money order (made payable to your regional contractor or U.S. Family Health Plan Provider), or credit/debit card. **Note:** Beginning Oct. 1, 2012, the initial premium payment amount is changing to two months instead of three months.

**Ongoing Premium Payments.** After the initial payment, premiums must be paid in advance electronically through a checking or savings account funds transfer or an automatic debit/credit card charge. You may be charged a fee of up to \$20 for insufficient or unavailable funds.

**Health Care Costs.** After you’ve selected your option, Prime or Standard, your out-of-pocket costs are then based on your sponsor’s military status and the type of provider you see.

**Prime Option and Standard Option.** Please note that care in military treatment facilities is usually \$0 for any type of care. If you enroll in the TRICARE Young Adult Prime Option, you will have the same priorities for MTF care as other TRICARE Prime enrollees. If you enroll in the TRICARE Young Adult-Standard Option, you can only access MTF care on a space-available basis.

## TRICARE and Medicare (Part D)

In Vol. 55 No 2, we ran the cover article, “Stepping Into Medicare,” which discussed six essential steps to help you successfully enter Medicare. What we did not address was how TRICARE relates to Medicare’s prescription drug coverage (Part D). As some of you have told us, Part D is not required.

Medicare’s prescription drug coverage, Medicare (Part D), is available to anyone who is eligible for Medicare (Part A and/or Part B).

TRICARE is creditable coverage. When you become eligible for Medicare (Part D), you will receive a notice in the mail explaining your TRICARE prescription drug coverage and how it relates to Medicare (Part D). Because TRICARE is creditable coverage, you will not be required to pay extra if you decide to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan after your Initial Enrollment Period. Please keep this notice for your records. If you decide to enroll in Medicare (Part D), you may need it to show that you do not have to pay higher premiums.

You do not need to enroll in a Medicare (Part D) prescription drug plan to keep your TRICARE benefits and there is almost NO advantage to enrolling in a Medicare prescription drug plan for most TRICARE beneficiaries. Before deciding whether to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan, you

should compare monthly premiums, deductibles, co-pays, and drug coverage of various Medicare prescription drug plans in your area with your TRICARE prescription drug benefits.

If you do decide to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan, TRICARE will pay secondary to Medicare. You can enroll in the Medicare Prescription Drug Program during your Initial Enrollment Period or during the Open Enrollment Period, which is from November 15-December 31 each year with prescription drug coverage beginning January 1 of the following year.

For more information, visit Medicare at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov). You may download “Your Guide to Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage” at [www.medicare.gov/Publications/Pubs/pdf/11109.pdf](http://www.medicare.gov/Publications/Pubs/pdf/11109.pdf).

**Note:** Beneficiaries who live in overseas areas (non-U.S. territories) or who are in prison are not eligible for Medicare (Part D).

**TRICARE For Life Secondary Coverage to Medicare for all Beneficiaries Who Have Both Medicare (Parts A and B)**

*Eligible Beneficiaries:*  
All TRICARE beneficiaries who have both Medicare (Parts A and B).

*Availability:*  
TRICARE For Life is available worldwide. Medicare provides

coverage in the U.S. and U.S. Territories. In all other overseas locations, TRICARE is the primary payer.

### *Getting Care:*

You may visit any authorized provider. Your provider will file your claims with Medicare. Medicare pays its portion and electronically forwards the claim to the TRICARE For Life claims processor. TRICARE For Life then pays the provider directly for TRICARE-covered services.

For services covered by both Medicare and TRICARE, Medicare pays first and TRICARE For Life pays your remaining coinsurance for TRICARE-covered services.

For services covered by TRICARE but not by Medicare, TRICARE For Life pays first and Medicare pays nothing. You must pay the TRICARE fiscal year deductible and cost shares.

For services covered by Medicare but not by TRICARE, Medicare pays first and TRICARE For Life pays nothing. You must pay the Medicare deductible and coinsurance.

For services not covered by Medicare or TRICARE, Medicare and TRICARE pay nothing and you must pay the entire bill.

### *Out-of-Pocket Costs:*

You do not pay any enrollment fees, but you must pay Medicare Part B monthly premiums.

Your Part B premium is based on your income. For more information about Part B premiums, visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) or call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213.

### Using TRICARE for Life Overseas

Medicare provides coverage in the United States and U.S. Territories. When using TRICARE for Life in all other overseas locations, TRICARE is the primary payer. You are responsible for paying the TRICARE annual deductible and cost shares (same costs as TRICARE Standard Overseas). TRICARE beneficiaries who live overseas and who are eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A must have Part B to remain eligible for TRICARE even though Medicare does not provide coverage overseas.

### Is TRICARE For Life Right for You?

If you have both Medicare (Part A and B), then TRICARE For Life is the plan for you. Coverage is available worldwide and you can see any provider you want. However, you will have greater out-of-pocket expenses if you get care from the Veterans Administration providers or providers who opt-out of Medicare, because they are not permitted to bill Medicare.



## DFAS News

Treasury Mandates  
Electronic Pay by  
March 1, 2013

The Department of the Treasury has announced all payments from the federal government must be made electronically and not by paper check beginning March 1, 2013. This means most retired military and annuitants receiving paper checks will be required to sign up for direct deposit. With direct deposit, DFAS sends your payment directly to your bank account. Direct deposit gives you immediate access to your money on payday, and it eliminates the risk of lost or stolen checks, forged signatures and identity theft.

More than 99% of military retirees and 96% of annuitants already receive their payments through direct deposit. If you are one of the few still receiving a check in the mail, DFAS will send you a notice in the coming months. But you can get ahead of the rush by setting up direct deposit now. It is easy, it is safe, and it gives you more control with less stress.

There are three ways to start direct deposit. Before you enroll, you will need to gather information including your financial institution's routing transit number and account number. Then do one of the following:

1. Send a signed Fast Start Direct Deposit Form ([www.fms.treas.gov/eft/2231.pdf](http://www.fms.treas.gov/eft/2231.pdf))

2. Use your myPay account to set up a direct deposit to your checking or savings account; or
3. Call the DFAS Retired and Annuitant Pay Customer Care Center at 1-800-321-1080.

It can take 30 to 60 days from the day DFAS receives your enrollment for direct deposit to start. If after enrolling, you receive a paper check, please cash or deposit it as you normally would. DFAS will send you a notification when they process your enrollment. There are many advantages to eliminating paper checks. No more trips to the bank to deposit your check, no risk of lost or stolen mail, no waiting for misrouted or delayed mail, and your money is available to you the day it is due. It also will save the American taxpayers about \$120 million every year. More information is available at [www.dfas.mil/mandatoryeft.html](http://www.dfas.mil/mandatoryeft.html).

### myPay Puts You in Control of Your Retirement Pay

More than a million military retirees and annuitants are using myPay, the official online account management system for military members, retirees, annuitants, and DoD employees, to stay on top of their retirement pay accounts. They use it to monitor their pay and survivor benefits, keep their

contact and beneficiary information current, and control their allotments, direct deposit, and tax withholdings.

According to DFAS officials, more than 80,000 retirees have created myPay accounts since the agency began providing a monthly electronic Retiree Account Statement called the eRAS, last November.

Available only on myPay, the eRAS is a complete summary of your pay, deductions, and benefits. It includes information about allotments, income tax withholdings, direct deposit, and a Survivor Benefit Plan counter that shows how much longer you have to pay premiums.

If you find something that needs to be updated while viewing your eRAS, most account changes can be made in minutes using myPay. There is no need to wait on hold for customer service or send forms in the mail. myPay is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week from anywhere in the world and changes you make using myPay take effect in just three to five business days.

According to DFAS, retirees who switch to myPay not only have hands-on control of their pay, but can receive their IRS Form 1099-R and other important documents sooner and more securely than those who rely on traditional mail delivery. When you make a change on myPay, the only hands it has to go through are yours. On myPay you can:

- View, print, or save your Retiree Account Statement,
- View, print, or save your Combat-Related Special Compensation Statement,
- Start, stop, or change electronic allotments to financial institutions,
- Change your mailing or e-mail address,
- Make changes to your direct deposit information,
- View, print, or save your IRS Form 1099R, and
- Subscribe to the Retiree Newsletter.

## How to Create a myPay Account

If you have never used myPay, visit <https://mypay.dfas.mil> and click “Forgot or Need a Password” to have a temporary password mailed to you. When you receive your password, return to the myPay home page and click “Create an Account” to get started. If you have trouble creating your account, visit [www.dfas.mil/retired-military](http://www.dfas.mil/retired-military) for step-by-step instructions.

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## USMC Ranks and Grades, 1775-1969

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*Marine Corps Historical Reference Pamphlet, 1970*

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Increased importance of the Marine Corps caused by an expanding Navy and the demands of waging an undeclared war with France brought about an increase in rank for the position of Commandant. Thus, the Act of April 22, 1800, established the rank of lieutenant colonel for the Commandant, who was promoted on May 1, 1800. At the same time, since the internal structure of the Corps did not call for an organization larger than ship guard or barracks detachments, the rank of major was abolished. This rank was not restored until March 3, 1809, when a major was authorized for the Marine post at New Orleans, which President Jefferson had determined to raise to a strength of 300 men, a command, according to the Secretary of the Navy, “too extensive” for a captain.

The highest rank in the Marine Corps through the Civil War was colonel. Although often referred to as “Brigadier General,” Archibald Henderson, the fifth Commandant of the Marine Corps, held that rank by brevet, and never held actual rank higher than colonel. Henderson’s brevet dated from Jan. 27, 1837, in recognition of his services in the Florida Indian Wars. Oddly enough, there is some indication that he drew compensation as a brevet, for a law of Congress on Aug. 10, 1846, prescribed that “no payments shall hereafter be made to the colonel, or any other officer of said corps, by virtue of a commission of brigadier general by brevet.”

# NIH Health News

## Dementia

Dementia is a loss of brain function that occurs with certain diseases. It affects memory, thinking, and behavior.

Someone with dementia will need support in the home as the disease gets worse. Family members or other caregivers can help by trying to understand how the person with dementia perceives his or her world. Give the person a chance to talk about any challenges and participate in his or her own care. Ask your health care provider how you can:

- Help the person stay calm and oriented,
- Make dressing and grooming easier,
- Talk to the person,
- Help with memory loss, and
- Manage behavior and sleep problems.

Tips for reducing confusion in people with dementia include:

- Have familiar objects and people around,
- Keep lights on at night,
- Use reminders, notes, lists of routine tasks, or directions for daily activities, and
- Stick to a simple activity schedule.

Regular walking with a caregiver or other reliable companion can improve communication skills and prevent wandering.

Calming music may reduce wandering and restlessness, ease anxiety, and improve sleep and behavior. People with dementia should have their eyes and ears checked; hearing aids, glasses, or cataract surgery may be needed. Supervised meals can help with feeding. People with dementia often forget to eat and drink and can become dehydrated as a result. Talk to the health care provider about the need for extra calories due to increased physical activity from restlessness and wandering. Also, talk to the health care providers about:

- Watching for risk, such as choking and what to do if choking occurs,
- How to increase safety in the home,
- How to prevent falls, and
- Ways to improve bathroom safety.

Eventually, people with dementia may need 24-hour monitoring and assistance to provide a safe environment, control aggressive or agitated behavior, and meet their needs. This may include in-home care, nursing homes, or adult day care.

**Long-Term Care.** A person with dementia may need monitoring and help at home or in an institution. Possible options include:

- Adult day care,
- Boarding homes,
- Convalescent homes, or
- In-home care.

Many organizations are available to help you care for a person with dementia. They include:

- Adult protective services,
- Community resources,
- Homemakers,
- Local or state government departments of aging,
- Visiting nurses or aides, and
- Volunteer services.

In some communities, dementia-related support groups may be available, such as an elder care support group. Family counseling can help family members cope with home care. Advance directives, power of attorney, and other legal actions may make it easier to decide on care for the person with dementia. Seek legal advice early before the person is unable to make these decisions.

For more information and resources for people with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers, go to AD-EAR, Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center at [www.nia.nih.gov/alzheimers](http://www.nia.nih.gov/alzheimers) or call 1-800-438-4380 (Mon-Fri, 8:30 am-5:00 pm Eastern Time).



# Reunions

**Basic Class 3-56** in New Orleans, LA, Nov. 12-14, 2012. POC: Loren Brandt, (858) 277-3309, lbrandt1@san.rr.com.

**Basic School Class 8-84, Co. "H"** 30th reunion in Quantico, VA, May 24, 2014 (date is tentative). POC: Mike McGinn, mcginnpm@gmail.com.

**F 2/1 Vietnam (Aug. 66-July 67)** in Nashville, TN, April 21-23, 2013. POC: Dieter Maass, (920) 846-2988, dietermaass@centurytel.net.

**Lima Co., 3rd Bn., 5th Marines (L 3/5) Vietnam 1966-67** in Arlington, TX, June 11-16, 2013. POC: Dan Nordmann, (314) 291-1725, dmnordmann@att.net.

**H-3-7 Marines (1950-55) Korea** in Naperville Lisle, IL. POC: MSgt Ed Parungo, (919) 414-7468, fax: (919) 876-8091, Parun2@aol.com or Bob Nichols, (727) 392-2886, jarhead37@tampabay.rr.com.

**Iwo Jima Assn. of America Reunion and Symposium**, Feb. 14-17, 2013 and Reunion of Honor, Guam and Iwo Jima, March 8-15, 2013, both in Arlington, VA. POC: Director@IwoJimaAssociation.org. Visit: www.IwoJimaAssociation.org or call (703) 212-8128.

**Marine Corps Disbursing Assn.** in Nashville, TN, April 21-25, 2013. POC Michael Thiry, (816) 765-1059, mthiry20@gmail.com or visit www.usmcdisbursers.com.

**Marine F4 Phantom Foray** in San Diego, CA, Nov. 1-4, 2012. All pilots, RIOs, officers, SNCOs and enlisted who have served in a Marine F4 squadron or group. POC: f4phantom@afri.com or AFRI (F4 Phantom), 322 Madison Mews, Norfolk, VA 23510.

**MatDiv. Sup. Dept., MCCDC** Quantico (1972-76) in Quantico, VA, April 26-28, 2013. POC: Jesse Conwell, (740) 894-3203 or Gene Simpson, (703) 221-7423, gsimp2@verizon.net.

**Platoon 296, K Co., 2nd Recruit Training Bn. MCRD PISC (training dates Nov 10, 1964 to Jan. 27, 1965)** at Parris Island, SC, Nov. 10, 2014. POC: SgtMaj James Butler, USMC (Ret), (910) 340-7074, jbutler29@ec.rr.com.

**Platoon 316, 3rd Recruit Training Bn., MCRD PISC (training dates Feb. 12, 1964 to April 17, 1964)** 50-year reunion at Parris Island, SC, April 17, 2014. POC: GySgt Alexander J. Nevgloski Sr., USMC (Ret), (910) 325-9148, gunr88@hotmail.com.

**VMA(AW)-451 at NAS Atsugi, Japan (1962-63)** in Los Angeles, CA, tentatively scheduled for Dec. 2012. POCs: MGySgt Donald Sison, USMC (Ret), dsison@aol.com or Phil Filippi, philipfilippi@sbcglobal.net.

**4th U.S. Marine Corps Weather Service/METOC** in Las Vegas, NV, June 2-6, 2013. POC: Lee Halverson, (925) 837-7493, Lhazmateer@aol.com or Don Innis, (321) 724-6600, dinnis@cfl.rr.com.

**3rd Marines Scout/Sniper Platoon (Vietnam)** in Las Vegas, NV, Feb. 8-10, 2013. POC: Jim O'Neill, (928) 684-2309 or taraniall@gmail.com.

**5th Black Marine Reunion** in New Orleans, LA, June 26-29, 2013. All Marines are welcome. POC: Robert "Bobby" Wallace, (352) 259-2435, thegator1630@comcast.net or George H. Stills, Jr., (504) 366-6617, georgestills@hotmail.com.

## Retiree Appreciation Days Retiree Seminars

Need help with your retired pay or annuity account? Attend one of the many retiree seminars that take place across the country. This year, DFAS Retired and Annuitant Pay will participate in the retiree seminars listed below. Friendly and knowledgeable DFAS representatives will be on hand to provide information and answer questions regarding military retirement pay and annuities. Please contact the Retirement Services Office or Retiree Activities Office serving your area for more information regarding seminars.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location (U.S.)</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location (International)</b>
Oct. 26	Fort Rucker, AL	Oct. 17	Vincenza, Italy
Oct. 26	Wright-Patterson AFB, OH	Oct. 19	Grafenwohr, Germany
Oct. 27	Rock Island Arsenal, IL	Oct. 20	Schweinfurt, Germany
Oct. 27	Joint Base Andrews, MD	Oct. 22	Ramstein AFB, Germany
Nov. 8	Fort Detrick, MD	Oct. 24	Ansbach, Germany
		Oct. 25	Stuttgart, Germany
		Oct. 26	Kaiserslautern, Germany

## Nearly 75 Years Ago...



## Marine Corps Retired Services Offices

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**MCAS Yuma Arizona**

POC: Richard Welch  
(928) 269-3159; fax: (928) 928-269-3723  
richard.welch@usmc.mil

**MCAGCC Twentynine Palms  
California**

POC: Philip C. Cisneros  
(760) 830-7550

**MCAS Miramar California**

POC: Marvin Muskat  
(858) 577-4806  
marvin.muskat@usmc.mil

**MCB Camp Pendleton California**

POC: Jim White  
(760) 725-9789; fax: (760) 725-8969  
james.o.white@usmc.mil

**MCLB Barstow California**

POC: Patrick Rewerts  
(760) 577-6265  
rewertspat@usmc.mil

**MCRD San Diego California**

POC: Ray P. Bromley  
(619) 524-5301  
ray.bromley@usmc.mil

**MCLB Albany Georgia**

POC: Raymond Breaux  
(229) 639-5278  
raymond.breaux@usmc.mil

**MCB Kaneohe Bay Hawaii**

POC: Ricardo Paguio  
(808) 257-7795  
ricardo.paguio@usmc.mil

**MCAS Iwakuni Japan**

POCs: Gary K. Saiki  
011-81-827-79-5762  
gks20142000@yahoo.com or  
saikigk@usmc-mccs.org

Robert Bugawan  
rbugawan@yahoo.com or  
robert.bugawan@usmc.mil

**MCB Camp SD Butler Okinawa Japan**

POC: Tony Ethridge, USMC (Ret)  
DSN: 645-3159; off base: 970-3159  
ethridget@okinawa.usmc-mccs.org

POC: Ben Garcia  
garciab@okinawa.usmc-mccs.org  
DSN: 645-3159, 011-81-611-745-3159

**MCSA Kansas City Missouri**

POC: Paul Farmer  
(816) 843-3652  
paul.farmer1@usmc.mil

**MCB Camp Lejeune North Carolina**

POC: Randy Reichler  
(910) 451-0287, ext. 205  
randy.reichler@usmc.mil

**MCAS Cherry Point North Carolina**

POC: Ernie Buschhaus  
(252) 466-5548  
ernest.buschhaus@usmc.mil

**MCAS/MCRD South Carolina**

POC: Vonda Jones  
(843) 228-6222  
vonda.jones@usmc.mil

**MCB Henderson Hall Virginia**

POC: Larry Ward  
(703) 693-9197  
hnhl\_rao.fct@usmc.mil

**MCB Quantico Virginia**

Kimberly Bennett  
(703) 784-3351  
kimberly.bennett@usmc.mil



## 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 rank held that was reported to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, month and year of retirement and month and year of death.

### COLONEL

Armstead, Robert C. Jan 68/Jul 12  
 Beach, William L. Jul 73/Jul 12  
 Bemis, John H. Apr 88/Jun 12  
 Bohlen, Lawrence G. Jul 83/Jan 12  
 Darning, Edmund G. Jul 74/Apr 12  
 Fry, William F. Oct 71/Jul 12  
 Holdt, Arthur E. Mar 67/Jul 12  
 Holicky, Joseph J. Jr. Oct 71/Feb 12  
 Morell, Philip C. Jul 80/Jun 12  
 Olson, Virgil D. Jul 73/Jul 12  
 Ridgway, Alvin P. Jr. Sep 91/Jul 12  
 Sleger, Joseph Jr. Jul 80/Jul 12  
 Upschulte, Phillip P. Jul 83/Apr 12  
 Urmston, John B. Jun 06/Jul 12

### LIEUTENANT COLONEL

Beyes, Warren J. Feb 81/Jun 12  
 Bose, Eugene N. May 09/Jul 12  
 Champagne, Edward A. Jr. May 81/Jul 12  
 Cooney, Orville D. Aug 67/Jun 12  
 Cooper, James L. May 81/Jul 12  
 Cunningham, Ralph L. Jr. Sep 68/Jun 12  
 Curtis, Paul F. Mar 67/Feb 11  
 Demmler, Harvey G. Feb 03/Feb 12  
 Duffy, Leroy M. Jul 70/Apr 12  
 Duley, Lance M. May 99/Jul 12  
 Evans, Robert C. Dec 69/Jul 12  
 Friberg, James W. May 76/Jul 12  
 Gallegos, David M. Sep 80/Jun 12  
 Hitzelberger, Daniel A. May 84/Jul 12  
 Hodde, Gordon V. Dec 67/Jun 12  
 Hollis, Alton B. Aug 81/Jul 12  
 Huff, Emmett S. Aug 77/Apr 12  
 Johnson, Robert E. Jul 64/Jul 12  
 Kovsky, Hyman S. Nov 83/Oct 11  
 Merrick, H.R. Jr. Nov 67/Jun 12  
 Miller, Anthony D. Feb 79/Jun 12  
 Miller, Edwin D. Oct 94/Jun 12

Murry, Joseph A. Nov 84/Jul 12  
 O'Hara, Andrew W. Jan 99/Jul 12  
 Skinner, Barry F. Dec 81/Jul 12  
 Snipes, Thomas G. Oct 69/Jun 12  
 Tiffany, Russell B. Jul 84/Jul 12  
 Young, Ellwood L. Jan 83/Jun 12  
 Young, Lauritz W. Sep 75/Jul 12

### MAJOR

Bentley, Loren D. Jul 66/Jul 12  
 Courtney, James R. Mar 68/Jul 12  
 Fitzgerald, Norman P. Jr. Feb 72/Jun 12  
 Folsom, Eric H. Jun 05/Jul 12  
 Hedrick, Charles T. Jun 77/Jul 12  
 Gore, Robert F. Sep 74/Jul 12  
 Hill, Malcolm A. Jul 65/Jul 12  
 Holtzclawe, S.W. Mar 61/Jul 12  
 Lain, Bobby D. Nov 67/Jul 12  
 Lenihan, John D. Sep 66/Jul 12  
 Lucas, David J. Jr. Feb 77/Jun 12  
 Nicosia, Donald D. Sep 76/Jun 12  
 Pendergast, Thomas J. Nov 81/Jul 12  
 Persky, William Oct 77/Jul 12  
 Philson, James R. Jul 83/Jun 12  
 Powell, William B. Jr. Nov 78/Jun 12  
 Ruthazer, Warren C. Mar 72/Jul 12  
 Saunders, Carleton F. Oct 78/Jul 12  
 Smyth, James P. Feb 70/Jul 12  
 Tait, Glenn S. Nov 75/Jul 12

### CAPTAIN

Allosso, Thomas L. Apr 06/Feb 12  
 Burns, Kenneth R. Apr 73/Jul 12  
 Hollingsworth, C.W. Nov 51/Jul 12  
 Pangburn, Charles E. Sep 62/Jul 12  
 Tootle, Garvin O. Jul 83/Jun 12

**FIRST LIEUTENANT**

Filiey, Charles A. Sep 52/May 12  
 Fisette, Robert H. May 71/Jul 12  
 Marshall, John W. Dec 70/Jul 12  
 Redden, Thomas A. Jun 48/Jul 12  
 Weckerly, William M. Jul 68/May 12

**SECOND LIEUTENANT**

Lyttle, Herbert G. III Mar 46/Jul 12

**CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER**

Cooper, Leon A. Sr. CWO3 Jul 58/Jul 12  
 Drawdy, Joseph C. CWO3 Mar 71/May 12  
 Fournier, William M. CWO4 Jul 04/Jul 12  
 Sypniewski, Edward L. CWO2 Dec 70/May 12  
 Thompson, M.E. CWO3 Jun 68/Jul 12  
 Williaford, Cecil R. CWO4 Nov 80/Jul 12  
 Willis, Gaines L. CWO2 Jun 75/Jul 12  
 Wirth, Clarence J. Jr. CWO4 Aug 92/Jul 12

**SERGEANT MAJOR**

Callaghan, Wallace O. Apr 68/Jul 12  
 Higle, Robert R. Mar 04/Jul 12  
 Ingram, William E. Sep 76/Jul 12  
 Kendrick, David A. Jr. Oct 68/Jul 12  
 Killingsworth, Willard W. Apr 68/Jul 12  
 Slater, James L. Sep 74/May 12  
 Snyder, Eugene W. Jan 70/Jul 12  
 Strausser, Edward Dec 85/Jul 12  
 Wilson, Albert L. Dec 83/Mar 12

**MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT**

Acosta, Crispin L. May 82/May 12  
 Bradley, Gary O. Sep 80/Jul 12  
 Feagin, Larry D. Jun 89/Jul 12  
 Gryske, Raymond C. Aug 74/Jul 12  
 Harris, Dewey W. Oct 69/Jul 12  
 Henkel, James S. Apr 80/Jul 12  
 Huth, Gerald A. Jul 01/Jul 12  
 Jones, Robert L. Oct 80/Mar 12  
 Kassebaum, Joseph S. Jul 69/Jul 12  
 Koval, Stephen Sep 70/Jul 12  
 Lauer, Charles E. Nov 76/Feb 11  
 Norton, Thomas J. Aug 83/Jul 12

Poole, Larry S. Jr. May 84/Jul 12  
 Raymond, Donald E. Jr. Jul 89/Jul 12  
 Sganga, Louis J. Oct 72/Jul 12  
 Tatem, Julius R. Jr. Aug 83/Nov 11  
 \*Thomas, Duette I. Sep 74/Nov 11  
 Thomas, Richard L. Jun 84/Jul 12  
 Turner, Herbert J. May 73/Jul 12  
 Walton, Chester E. Jul 71/Jul 12  
 Zirkelbach, Donald R. Apr 78/Jul 12

**FIRST SERGEANT**

Akins, Ronald M. Sr. Jan 73/Jul 12  
 Allen, Leonard N. Nov 84/Jul 12  
 Archuleta, Jose E. Sep 89/Jul 12  
 Bishop, Donald J. Sep 75/Apr 12  
 Bunn, Harry G. May 87/Jul 12  
 Carter, Ray L. Nov 95/Jul 12  
 Dockery, Thomas J. Jul 70/Jul 12  
 Johnson, Albert P. Nov 69/Jul 12  
 Kealoha, Bonaventur Nov 72/Jul 12  
 Lippe, Myron A. Jan 71/Jul 12  
 Scott, Larry E. Dec 03/Jul 12  
 Smith, Curtis W. Mar 86/Jul 12  
 Williams, Nathaniel F. Jul 69/Jul 12

**MASTER SERGEANT**

Brock, Alvin P. Jan 85/Jul 12  
 Carter, Terry E. Oct 77/Jul 12  
 Emory, Lloyd A. Aug 98/Jul 12  
 Gray, Henry J. Feb 74/Jul 12  
 Guthrie, Betty A. May 79/Jul 12  
 Hartley, William R. Mar 12/Mar 12  
 Haskell, Russell E. Jul 73/Jul 12  
 Heffner, Dale F. Oct 76/Jul 12  
 Hopcraft, Albert E. May 63/Jul 12  
 Houdyshell, Harvey W. Apr 72/Jul 12  
 Hutton, George W. Sep 64/Jul 12  
 Luukkonen, Vesa R. Apr 76/Jul 12  
 Mackelvey, Elmer H. Jr. Nov 97/Jul 12  
 Mercado, Jack O. Feb 75/Jul 12  
 Peeden, James W. Jun 76/Jul 12  
 Rodriguez, Bonifacio Sep 83/May 12  
 Rodriguez, Miguel Jr. Jun 72/Jul 12  
 Sanders, Billy R. Nov 75/Jul 12  
 Stigar, Thomas L. Oct 74/Jul 12  
 Wilson, Fred A. Aug 68/Jul 12

**GUNNERY SERGEANT**

Boone, Everett M. May 77/May 12  
 Boss, R.E. Dec 67/Jul 12  
 Bressert, Albert E. Mar 62/Jul 12  
 Britton, James L. Sep 89/Jul 12  
 Brown, Reginald D. Mar 05/Jul 12  
 Caldwell, Clarence Jan 76/Jul 12  
 Corn, Clarence C. Nov 66/Jul 12  
 Courtright, Robert W. Feb 65/Jul 12  
 Cross, James P. Dec 62/Jul 12  
 Delay, Forrest D. Aug 78/Jul 12  
 Diaz, Jose L. Jr. May 07/Jul 12  
 Duncan, Ann R. Aug 92/Jul 12  
 Ellis, Hugh E. Apr 68/May 12  
 Erdtsieck, Fred Jr. May 68/Jul 12  
 Ernst, Milton P. Nov 99/Jul 12  
 Exelby, William E. May 83/Jul 12  
 Flanagan, William C. Jr. Jun 71/Jul 12  
 Gillen, Ronald J. Nov 68/Jul 12  
 Groby, Mark G. Jr. May 67/Jul 12  
 Gullick, Robert E. Aug 81/Jul 12  
 Hatchell, Melvin M. Dec 57/Jul 12  
 Hazlett, Earle I. Mar 71/May 12  
 Hink, Larry C. Apr 73/Jul 12  
 Hodges, Hariam H. Sep 66/Jul 12  
 Holbrooke, Raymond H. Jr. Jan 94/Jul 12  
 Johnsen, Melfred E. Jr. Jun 70/Jul 12  
 Johnson, George W. Aug 01/Jul 12  
 Kaczynski, Henry Mar 69/Jul 12  
 Keyes, Brian L. Jun 84./Jul 12  
 Kohanski, A.C. Jun 55/Jul 12  
 Loyd, John R. Nov 73/Jul 12  
 Martin, Lawrence J. Jan 69/Jul 12  
 McConnell, Stanley H. May 57/Jul 12  
 McCurdy, Robert L. Jun 73/Jul 12  
 McGregor, Eugene S. Mar 12/Mar 12  
 Mrdutt, Vlado Dec 64/Jul 12  
 Murphy, Ronald J. Jun 77/Jul 12  
 Nichols, Maurice H. Jan 71/Jul 12  
 Phillips, Donald V. Dec 68/Jul 12  
 Powers, Clyde E. Mar 74/Jul 12  
 Reiswig, George S. May 68/Jul 12  
 Rhodes, Hubert E. Nov 70/Jul 12  
 Roberson, Oscar Sep 69/Jul 12  
 Rutz, John J. Apr 69/Jul 12  
 Ryburn, Charles G. Oct 77/May 12  
 Schubert, Donald J. Aug 68/Jul 12  
 Schultz, Donald D. Apr 74/Jul 12

Stewart, Robert E. Aug 75/Jul 12  
 Trickel, Kenneth E. Jr. Aug 83/Jul 12  
 Turner, Curtiss J. Dec 61/Jul 12  
 Velgus, John A. Sep 70/Jul 12  
 Vanpoucke, Theodore R. Aug 69/Jul 12  
 Wolfe, Howard C. Apr 79/Jul 12

**STAFF SERGEANT**

Ables, W.R. May 62/Jul 12  
 Andrews, Loren W. Jan 96/Jul 12  
 Burress, Trevor M. Jun 11/Jul 12  
 Calderon, Jose Jan 67/Jul 12  
 Cawthorn, James L. Jul 70/Mar 12  
 Ciriaco, Andrew T. Mar 91/Jul 12  
 Cobbs, Joseph Oct 68/May 12  
 Daniels, James Oct 71/Jul 12  
 Hedgecock, Victor D. Jun 88/Jul 12  
 Huff, Norman W. III Dec 94/Jul 12  
 Hutson, P.E. Jun 62/Jul 12  
 Longoria, Catarino Mar 84/Jul 12  
 Mandel, Mark H. Jul 91/Jul 12  
 Neblett, Floyd H. Nov 69/Jan 12  
 Norton, Nathaniel Oct 70/Jul 07  
 Peters, James W. Jr. Jun 83/Jul 12  
 Tomolonis, Joseph P. Jun 79/Jul 12  
 Thompson, Donald W. Feb 96/Jul 12  
 Turley, Don E. Jul 90/Nov 08

**SERGEANT**

Cole, Clayton C. Oct 74/Jul 12  
 Dean, James V. Jul 73/Jul 12  
 Harris, Robert D. Feb 65/Jul 12  
 Jones, John M. Mar 67/Jul 12  
 Newcomb, Jonathan D. May 12/Jul 12  
 Short, Glenn A. Aug 73/Jul 12  
 Versaw, Theodore K. Jul 65/Jul 12  
 Whitmoyer, Ronald S. Nov 58/Jul 12

**CORPORAL**

Allen, Robert E. May 67/Jul 12  
 Borders, Dale L. Dec 68/Mar 11  
 Bryant, Don E. Jul 52/Jul 12  
 Dana, Walter R. Jun 53/Jan 12  
 Daugherty, Duane R. Mar 71/May 12  
 Grigson, Jerry W. Sep 67/Jul 12  
 Hill, Windle R. Jul 52/Jul 12

Johnson, Donald M. Jan 70/Jun 12  
 McCabe, Richard P. Jan 69/Jun 12  
 McDaniel, Larry G. Feb 70/Jul 12  
 Melton, G.M. Jun 69/Sep 08  
 Morgado, H.M. Nov 68/Jul 12  
 Reed, Junior L. Feb 68/Jun 12  
 Ross, B.E. Jan 54/Jul 12  
 Roybal, Ernestino U. Jan 66/Jun 12  
 Smith, Booker J. Aug 68/Jul 12  
 Whorton, Michael L. Oct 69/Jul 12

### **LANCE CORPORAL**

\*Becham, Cary V. Nov 69/Nov 10  
 Bradshaw, Alfred P. Jan 52/Jul 12  
 Deacon, Michael E. Sep 78/May 12  
 Garza, Michael E. Sep 09/Jun 12  
 McKinnon, Benjamin D. Mar 55/Jul 12  
 Michaud, Donald D. Dec 71/Jul 12  
 Napier, Dennis H. Mar 69/Jun 12  
 Paxton, Robert M. Nov 51/Jul 12  
 Reichman, Bryan L. Jr. Oct 10/Jun 12  
 Schnelzer, Darwin L. Oct 69/Jun 12

### **PRIVATE FIRST CLASS**

Bray, David E. Oct 51/May 12  
 Cain, A.R. Oct 69/Nov 11  
 Cassim, Eddie A. Sep 52/Jun 12  
 Costello, Jimmy J. Oct 51/Oct 07  
 Croisetiere, Donald R. Aug 63/May 12  
 Dixon, Max R. Apr 73/Oct 08  
 Hill, Charles G. Sep 71/May 12  
 Holmes, James B. Oct 69/Jun 12

*\*denotes correction from previous issue.*



# Is it Safe to Download the Semper Fidelis?

Some of you have told us you are reluctant to download the Semper Fidelis at [www.manpower.usmc.mil](http://www.manpower.usmc.mil) because of the security certificate. Whenever you see an “s” at the end of an URL, such as the one in <https://www.manpower.usmc.mil>, it is there to inform users that the web pages are secure. Encountering security certificate warnings may affect Microsoft Vista and XP users using Internet Explorer 7. If you are experiencing this problem, what are your options?

- Option 1:** It is safe to accept the certificate and proceed to download the newsletter.
- Option 2:** If you are uncomfortable proceeding with option 1, you may decline the certificate. If you choose this option, you will not be able to download the newsletter.
- Option 3:** You have the option to adjust the settings on your computer to accept the certificate. This way, you will not encounter a security alert each time you attempt to download the newsletter.

To adjust the settings on your computer, you can install a DoD Root Certificate that will allow your web browser to trust the identity of web sites whose secure communications are authenticated by DoD, such as “Semper Fidelis Online.”

The Defense Technical Information Center has information about security certificates at [www.dtic.mil/dtic/announcements/dodrootcertificates.html](http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/announcements/dodrootcertificates.html) and instructions on installing root certificates at <http://dodpki.c3pki.chamb.disa.mil/rootca.html>.



## 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 possible financial hardship to surviving family members or executors, who will be required to return any unearned payments of the decedent's annuity pay. Follow the steps to report the death of an annuitant.

STEP 1 Call DFAS at 1-800-321-1080 to report the death of the annuitant.

STEP 2 Send a copy of the annuitant's death certificate (showing cause of death) to:

**DFAS U.S. Military Annuitant Pay**  
**P.O. Box 7131; London, KY 40742-7131**  
**Fax: 1-800 982-8459**

STEP 3 Inform the financial institution receiving payments about the death of the annuitant.

Contact the following agencies/departments as soon as possible:

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

## Survivor Benefit Plan

### What Happens When a Retired Marine Dies

Once a retired Marine's death has been reported to DFAS, the beneficiary will receive a Verification for Survivor Annuity form (DD 2656-7) at the address DFAS has on record. The beneficiary must complete the form and return it to DFAS. When DFAS receives the completed form, they will begin the SBP annuity.

**It is extremely important for the beneficiary to notify DFAS immediately after the death of a retired Marine!**

Late notification of a Marine's death could result in burdensome consequences for survivors, including delays in finalizing the Marine's account, paying the Arrears of Pay, and establishing a Survivor Benefit Plan annuity.

## Steps to Take When a Retired Marine Dies

- Contact funeral home and make burial and funeral arrangements
  - Start claim process for applicable benefits (e.g., SBP, VA life insurance, Social Security, etc.)
  - Obtain multiple certified death certificates (6-12 copies)
  - Gather important documents for claims processing (e.g., birth certificate, will, etc.)
  - Determine immediate and short-term financial needs and income sources
  - Arrange for help with legal affairs of the deceased
  - Notify joint account agencies (credit cards, banks, auto registration home/auto insurance, brokers, etc.)
  - Review survivor's own legal documents for possible revision
- REPORT the death to DFAS at 1-800-321-1080 or (216) 522-5955 (press 3)** 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](http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms.html). Additional information from DFAS is available at [www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/Retiree-death.html](http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/Retiree-death.html). **Note:** When you notify DFAS of the Marine's death, DFAS will forward a confirmed death listing to Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps (MMSR-6) for inclusion in an upcoming issue of the *Semper Fidelis*.
- REPORT Survivor Benefit Plan election.** Designated annuitants will receive notification from DFAS if the deceased retired Marine elected SBP. If you are uncertain of whether an election was made, call DFAS at 1-800-321-1080.
- UPDATE your military identification card.** As the survivor of a deceased Marine, your ID card must be updated to reflect the change in your status due to the Marine's death. You may access your nearest ID site at [www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl) or call HQMC (MMSR-6) at 1-800-336-4649 or (703) 784-9310 to obtain the three sites closest to you.
- NOTIFY the Social Security Administration.** Call 1-800-SSA-1213 ([www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)) to apply for the \$255 death benefit, *if applicable*.
- CONTACT the VA for burial and other benefits.** The VA does not provide burial benefits for annuitants; however, the annuitant may be eligible for burial in a military cemetery. You will need to provide a copy of the DD 214. Call the VA at 1-800-827-1000 or visit [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).

**RECEIVING CIVIL SERVICE PAY?** U.S. OFFICE OF PERSONNEL: 1-888-767-6738, (202) 606-0500  
**RECEIVING VA PAY?** DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: 1-800-827-1000

### ADDITIONAL AGENCIES PROVIDING AID & ASSISTANCE TO SURVIVING SPOUSES:

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

## 2013 DFAS Retired Pay Dates

Entitlement Month	Payment Date
January 2, 2013	February 1, 2013
February 2013	March 1, 2013
March 2013	April 1, 2013
April 2013	May 1, 2013
May 2013	June 3, 2013
June 2013	July 1, 2013
July 2013	August 1, 2013
August 2013	September 3, 2013
September 2013	October 1, 2013
October 2013	November 1, 2013
November 2013	December 2, 2013

*DFAS retired pay dates are scheduled for the first non-holiday weekday of each month.*

### About the Cost of Living Increase for Military Retirees

Unfortunately, at the time Semper Fidelis went to press, the cost-of-living data was unavailable.

We will publish it in the next edition of the newsletter when it becomes available.

## Important Information DD 214s, Medical Records, Awards

### **DD 214s.** Marines who have been discharged, separated, or retired before **Dec. 31, 1998:**

National Personnel Records Center  
1 Archives Dr., St. Louis, MO 63138  
(314) 801-0800; fax: (314) 801-9195; e-mail: MPR.center@nara.gov

Marines discharged, retired, or separated after Jan. 1, 1999:

Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMSB-10)  
2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5030

### **Medical Records.** Marines who have been discharged, separated or retired **May 1, 1994** or later:

Department of Veterans Affairs, Records Management Center  
P.O. Box 5020; St. Louis, MO 63115-8950  
1-888-533-4558; fax: (314) 538-4571

**Note:** Discharged, separated or retired Marines before **May 1, 1994** must contact NPRC.

### **Awards.** Marines who have been discharged, separated or retired before **Dec. 31, 1998:**

Navy Personnel Command (PERS-312B); 1 Archive Dr., St. Louis, MO 63138  
(314) 538-2312; fax: (314) 538-2316

Marines who have been discharged, separated or retired after **Jan. 1, 1999:**

Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMMA) 2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134  
(703) 784-9206



## Inns of the Corps

**MCAS Yuma:** Dos Rios Inn  
(928) 269-2262, fax: (928) 269-6639

**MCLB Barstow:** Oasis Lodge  
(760) 577-6418, fax: (760) 577-6542

**MCB Camp Pendleton:** Ward Lodging  
(760) 725-2134/2313, fax: (760) 725-5609

**MCB Camp Pendleton:** South Mesa Lodge  
Reservations: (760) 763-7805/7806/7807  
fax: (760) 237-3559

**MCAS Miramar:** Miramar Inn  
(858) 271-7111, fax: (858) 628-9466  
Reservations: 1-800-628-9466

**MCAGCC Twentynine Palms:**  
**Sleepy Tortoise Inn**  
(760) 830-6583, fax: (760) 830-1647

**MCB Hawaii:** Lodge at Kaneohe Bay  
(808) 254-2806, fax: (808) 356-4506

**MCAS Iwakuni:** Monzen and Nishiki Lodges  
011-81-611-753-3221

**MCB Camp S.D. Butler:** WestPac Lodge  
011-81-611-745-2455

**MCB Camp Lejeune:** Hospitality Inn  
(910) 451-3041, fax: (910) 451-0360

**MCRD Parris Island:** The Osprey Inn  
(843) 522-1663 (primarily for personnel on TAD)

**MCRD San Diego:** Devil Dog Inn  
(619) 524-4401, [www.mcrdsd-billeting.org](http://www.mcrdsd-billeting.org)

**MCAS Beaufort:** De Treville House  
(843) 522-1663, fax: (843) 522-1663

**MCB Quantico:** Crossroads Inn  
(703) 630-4444, fax: (703) 630-4499  
Reservations: 1-800-965-9511

## UNITED STATES Marine Corps Junior ROTC Program



The Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps is looking for a few good men and women to serve as instructors at various high schools throughout the United States. Marines selected to serve in these billets teach MCJROTC cadets discipline, self-confidence and the leadership skills required to successfully prepare them to meet future challenges. Instructors receive a stipend from the Marine Corps and the respective school system that as a minimum, when added to retirement pay, can equal full military pay and allowances. MCJROTC instructors must be certified by the Commanding General, Training and Education Command, Quantico, Va. Applications are accepted not earlier than one year nor later than three years after the effective date of retirement. Marines interested in serving as MCJROTC instructors can view current vacancies and download an instructor application at [www.mcjrotc.org](http://www.mcjrotc.org).

### SEMPER FIDELIS

## DISCLAIMER

Some of the information compiled for Semper Fidelis comes from other sources to include experts in their respective fields, i.e., DFAS, VA, and TRI-CARE. 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.

Semper Fidelis accepts unsolicited material for publication for regular columns such as Second Career and Reunions, but reserve 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 memorandum do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Marine Corps or the Department of Defense.

## **Your Military Identification Card**

### **Two Forms of Identification Are Now Required:**

To replace or renew your military ID card, two forms of identification are required:

1. **A VALID PHOTO ID.** Acceptable photo identification includes a driver's license, military ID card, passport or permanent resident alien card. All photo IDs must be current; expired photo IDs are not accepted.
2. **A SECONDARY ID.** A secondary ID may include one of the photo IDs listed above or a Social Security card (not a Medicare card), a voter registration card, birth certificate, or student ID if you are a college student. To avoid delays, call your nearest ID card center for hours of operation and availability.

### **Military ID Cards for Family Members:**

Indefinite military ID cards are now issued to eligible family members who are 75 or older.

The 2007 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the issuance of indefinite military ID cards for incapacitated dependent children over 21. To qualify for an indefinite ID card, a determination of permanent incapacitation must be made by the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery and a current financial dependency determination (over 50%) is required. **A financial redetermination will also be required every four years.**

**Dependent parents and/or parents-in-law, over 75,** with permanent military ID cards will also require a financial redetermination every four years.

**Full-time students, over 21,** may be eligible for military ID card benefits until 23 provided they are enrolled full-time in a college or university and are dependent on the member for over 50% of their financial support. It is the service member's responsibility to ensure eligible family members are updated in DEERS and to notify DEERS of any changes in eligibility. For more information, call MMSR-6 at 1-800-336-4649 or (703) 784-9310.

### **The Retired Marine's Military ID Card:**

When a military service member retires, the ID card issued will have an indefinite expiration date. ID cards will be replaced if they are lost, stolen, or damaged; they will also be replaced for a name change due to marriage, divorce, or to replace an older version of the ID card.

A retired member's ID card may also be replaced when turning 65 and enrolling in Medicare Part B. With Medicare Part B enrollment, a retired Marine is automatically enrolled in TRICARE for Life, which will require updating the medical eligibility dates on the back of the ID card. If the dates on the back of your ID card have expired, replace the ID card (and have the Medicare Part B card with you when updating the military ID card).

### **Eligibility for a Military ID Card By Mail:**

**If you live more than 300 miles** from a military ID card center, you may renew your military ID card by mail. Applicants who are unable to travel due to a disability may also apply to renew ID cards by mail. Submit a current 5x7 or 8x10 color photograph, a photocopy of your current military ID card (front and back), a photocopy of a second form of ID (i.e., driver's license, birth certificate, or Social Security card) and a statement addressing why you are unable to travel to an ID card center to HQMC (MMSR-6), 3280 Russell Road, Quantico, VA 22134-5103. **Note:** Please provide your contact information! Without it, you will experience needless delays in processing your request.

**Schedule ID card appointment online!** <http://appointments.cac.navy.mil>

## 2012 SECRETARY OF THE NAVY Retiree Council

<https://secnavretireecouncil.lifelines.navy.mil>

VADM John Totushek, USN (Ret), Co-Chair  
**Washington, DC** john.totushek@am.jll.com

SGTMAJ Gene H. Overstreet, USMC (Ret), Co-Chair  
**Seguin, TX** overstreet@veteransdirect.com

### MARINE CORPS REPRESENTATIVES

COL Michele Krause, USMC (Ret)  
**Manassas, VA** michele.krause@va.gov

LTCOL Steve Brozak, USMC (Ret)  
**Scotch Plains, NJ** SBrozak@Brozak.com

SGTMAJ Annanias Rose USMC (Ret)  
**San Diego, CA** ru4arose@cox.net

SGTMAJ Frank E. Pulley, USMC (Ret)  
**Murrieta, CA** fepulley@gmail.com

1stSGT Raymond Stephens, Jr., USMC (Ret)  
**Forney, TX** stephensre35@yahoo.com

SSGT Daniel J. Kachmar, USMC (Ret)  
**Virginia Beach, VA** djkachmar@hotmail.com

### NAVY REPRESENTATIVES

AECM Joe Wright, USN (Ret)  
**Lemoore, CA** joe.wright@co.kings.ca.us

AECS(AW/SW) Thomas E. Guier, USN (Ret)  
**Spokane, WA** tguier@hotmail.com  
aecs\_tom\_guier@hotmail.com

CDR Charles Hopkins, USN (Ret)  
**Arlington, VA** CHoplll@aol.com  
Charles.Hopkins@gss-hq.com

CDR Ronald J. Ignelzi, USNR (Ret)  
**LaJolla, CA** rignelzi@san.rr.com

CAPT William Henderson, II, USN (Ret)  
**FPO AE** wilcovhen@gmail.com

CAPT Michael A. Lilly, USNR (Ret)  
**Honolulu, HI** michael@nljlaw.com

CAPT Elizabeth Ruschmeier, USN (Ret)  
**Annapolis, MD** elizabeth.ruscheimer@va.gov

CAPT Charles Martin Menez, USN (Ret)  
**Alexandria, VA** MMenez1981@Kellog.Northwestern.edu

CWO4 Allen Gibbs, USN (Ret)  
**Chesterfield, VA** allen.gibbs@dla.mil

HTCS Stanley Kurtz, USN (Ret)  
**Pflugerville, TX** skurtz1211@suddenlink.net

MCCM Danny Britton, USN (Ret)  
**Lemoore, CA** d.l.britton@comcast.net

NC1 Gary Ivy, USN (Ret)  
**Temple, TX** gary.ivy@tvc.state.tx.us

NCCM (SW/AW) Sally F. Burnham, USN (Ret)  
**Savannah, TN** whackywave1@yahoo.com

HMC Joseph R. Reichler, USN (Ret)  
**Jacksonville, NC** randy.reichler@usmc.mil

# Directory Assistance Pages

## A:

American Red Cross: [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

Arlington National Cemetery: (703) 607-8000  
[www.arlingtonnationalcemetery.org](http://www.arlingtonnationalcemetery.org)

Armed Forces Retirement Homes (Gulfport):  
[www.afrh.gov](http://www.afrh.gov)

Armed Forces Retirement Homes (Washington):  
Attn: PAO/Marketing #1305  
3700 North Capitol St. NW  
Washington, DC 20011-8400  
1-800-422-9988, [www.afrh.gov](http://www.afrh.gov)

Armed Forces Recreation Centers:  
[www.armymwr.com/portal/travel/recreationcenters/](http://www.armymwr.com/portal/travel/recreationcenters/)

Cape Henry Inn (Virginia): (757) 422-8818

Dragon Hill Lodge (Korea): (011-82) 2-790-0016

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

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

Shades of Green on Walt Disney World Resort  
(Florida): 1-888-593-2242

Armed Forces Vacation Club: 1-800-724-9988 (to  
book a space-available unit use account #7033-0000  
and installation #227), [www.afvclub.com](http://www.afvclub.com)

## B:

Board for Correction of Naval Records  
CMC, 2 Navy Annex, Rm. 2432  
Washington, DC 20370-51000  
(703) 614-1402 or 614-1316  
[www.donhq.navy.mil/bcnr/bcnr.htm](http://www.donhq.navy.mil/bcnr/bcnr.htm)

## C:

Camp Lejeune Notification Registry:  
[www.usmc.mil/camplejeune/clbwatersurveyinfo.nsf](http://www.usmc.mil/camplejeune/clbwatersurveyinfo.nsf)

Cold War Certificate:

Cold War Recognition, Hoffman II  
Attn: AHRC-CWRS, 3N45, 200 Stovall St.  
Alexandria, VA 22332-0473  
(703) 325-5864, fax: 1-800-723-9262  
<https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/tagd/coldwar/default.htm>

Combat-Related Special Compensation  
SECNAV Council of Review Boards  
720 Kennon St. SE, Ste. 309  
Washington, DC 20374-5023  
1-877-366-2772, fax: (202) 685-6882  
<http://donhq.navy.mil/corb/crscb/crscbmainpage.htm>  
E-Mail: [DON\\_CRSC@navy.mil](mailto:DON_CRSC@navy.mil)

## D:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service:  
1-800-321-1080, [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil)

U.S. and OCONUS: (216) 522-5955  
Fax: 1-800-469-6559  
DFAS Special Compensation for the Severely  
Disabled, (216) 522-6170  
P.O. Box 998011; Cleveland, OH 44199-8011

### DFAS ANNUITANTS

U.S. Military Annuitant Pay  
P.O. Box 7131, London, KY 40742-7131  
Fax: 1-800-982-8459

### DFAS RETIRED MARINES

U.S. Military Retirement Pay  
P.O. Box 7130, London, KY 40742-7130  
Fax: 1-800-469-6559

OTHER DFAS CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTERS:  
Marine Corps (active duty & reserve):  
1-888-332-7411

Out-of-service debts (all services):  
1-800-962-0648

## E:

e-Benefits:  
<https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/appmanager/eb/veterans>

**L:**

Leatherneck Magazine of the Marines:  
715 Broadway St., Quantico, VA 22134  
1-800-336-0291, ext. 115, fax: (703) 640-0823  
E-Mail: leatherneck@mca-marines.org

**M:**

Marine Corps Association:  
715 Broadway St., Quantico, VA 22134  
1-866-622-6161, ext. 100, fax: (703) 630-1446  
E-Mail: mca@mca-marines.org

## Marine Corps Gazette:

715 Broadway St., Quantico, VA 22134  
1-800-336-0291, ext. 144, fax: (703) 630-9147  
E-Mail: gazette@mca-marines.org

Marine Corps Education Command  
Marine Corps University, History Division:  
3078 Upshur Ave., Quantico, VA 22134  
(703) 432-4874, www.history.usmc.mil

Marine Corps Junior ROTC, TECOM (C 46JR)  
1019 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5001  
(703) 784-3706, www.mcjrotc.org

Marine Corps Records Correspondence (MMSB-12)  
2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5030  
1-800-268-3710, (703) 784-3930/4646/5616

Marine Military Expositions: (202) 637-6138  
1317 F St. NW  
Washington, DC 20004  
www.marinemilitaryexpos.com

Medicare: 1-800-633-4227, www.medicare.gov

My Compass: www.mccompass.net

My Tutor: www.tutor.com

**N:**

National Museum of the Marine Corps  
18900 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Triangle, VA 22172  
1-877-653-1775, www.usmcmuseum.org

Navy Lodge Worldwide Reservations Center:  
1-800-NAVY-INN, www.navy-lodge.com

**S:**

Social Security Administration: 1-800-772-1213  
www.ssa.gov

\*Space-A Travel Air Mobility Command:  
www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/index.asp

State Department Travel Warnings:  
<http://travel.state.gov>

**T:**

TRICARE Pharmacy Program: 1-877-363-6337

TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy, Express Scripts:  
1-866-363-8667

TRICARE Retail Pharmacy: 1-866-363-8779

TRICARE for Life/ Dual Eligibles: 1-866-773-0404

TRICARE Retiree Dental Plan Delta Dental:  
1-888-838-8737, www.trdp.org

TRICARE Dental Program United Concordia  
CONUS: 1-800-866-8499, OCONUS, 1-888-475-0486

TRICARE Online: 1-800-538-9552

## TRICARE Regional:

\*North, 1-877-874-2273

\*South, 1-800-444-5445

\*West, 1-888-874-9378

\*Overseas (to include Pacific, Latin America,  
Canada, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Europe)  
1-888-777-8343

**U:**

USMC Community Services: www.usmc-mccs.org

**V:**

VA Education Customer Service Office:  
1-888-442-4551, www.gibill.va.gov

VA Life Insurance: 1-800-669-8477  
www.insurance.va.gov

Virginia Defense Force: (804) 228-7018  
POC: LT Henry Howells, henry.c.howells@us.army.mil  
www.vdf.virginia.gov/recruiting.shtml

\*Did you know you can view AMC Passenger Terminal Locations online? An interactive map enables users to selection locations and common destinations. Visit [www.amc.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-110126-037.swf](http://www.amc.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-110126-037.swf) to learn more!

**UNIFORM SERVICE CENTER**  
**1-800-368-4088**  
**Fax your DD 214 to 1-800-551-6289**  
**before placing an order.**

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## Separation and Retirement Branch - MMSR

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Vacant, *Assistant Branch Head*



### Retired Services and Pay Section (MMSR-6)

Mr. Wesley R. Combs, *Section Head*  
wesley.combs@usmc.mil

Vacant, *Assistant Section Head*

Ms. Tanya L. Ramey, *Writer-Editor*  
tanya.ramey@usmc.mil

Mrs. Katharina L. Constance  
Mrs. Rose M. Thomas  
*Human Resource Specialists*

SSgt Edric J. Wyatt, Cpl Joshua Sanford  
LCpl Josue Bentzsuarez  
*Admin Staff*

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

Retirement Section  
(Enlisted) smb.manpower.mmsr2e@nmci.usmc.mil  
(Officer) smb.manpower.usmc.mmsr2o@nmci.usmc.mil

### MMSR-3: (703) 784-9322/23

Separation Section  
smb.manpower.mmsr3@nmci.usmc.mil

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

Disability Section  
smb.manpower.mmsr4@nmci.usmc.mil

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

Inactive Reserve Section  
smb.manpower.mmsr5@nmci.usmc.mil

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

Retired Services Section  
smb.manpower.mmsr6@nmci.usmc.mil

### MMSR-7: (703) 784-9317, 1-800-715-0968

Retired List Maintenance and Support Section  
smb.manpower.mmsr7@nmci.usmc.mil

**How to Report an Address Change** A retired Marine can report an address change to DFAS at 1-800-321-1080 or MMSR-7. An annuitant can only report an address change to DFAS. A correct address will ensure receipt of this newsletter and other correspondence from HQMC and DFAS.