

## VA opening 13 new outpatient clinics

*From the Department of Veterans Affairs*

WASHINGTON – As part of the continuing effort to provide world-class health care closer to where more Veterans live, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced plans to open 13 new community-based outpatient clinics in nine states.

“Community-based clinics are key to providing veterans better access to high-quality care closer to home,” said VA Secretary Eric K. Shinseki. “By reducing the distance veterans have to travel, we hope more veterans will benefit from the health care services they have earned through their service to our Nation.”

With 152 medical centers and more than 812 community-based outpatient clinics (CBOCs), the department oper-

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Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Zane Ecklund

### Hovering away...

***A landing craft air cushion departs the well deck aboard the amphibious transport dock ship USS New York (LPD 21). New York and the embarked 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit are part of the Iwo Jima Amphibious Ready Group deployed supporting maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.***

## Labor Dept. paves job path for service members, vets

*By Terri Moon Cronk*

*American Forces Press Service*

FORT MEADE, Md. – Department of Labor (DOL) officials are reaching out to let transitioning service members and veterans know about the department’s many training programs to give them a successful path to employment.

From workshops to job fairs and one-on-one training, DOL is committed to connecting veterans with jobs, Junior Ortiz, DOL’s deputy assistant secretary for Veterans’ Employment, told American Forces Press Service.

“We are the employment arm of the

government [and] the DOL is charged to take care of employment issues, ... but specifically for our veterans,” he said. “We must make sure our veterans are employed.”

Labor Secretary Hilda L. Solis is “very committed to making sure that we take care of our veterans,” Ortiz said. Solis has said, “Our veterans have taken care of us. Now it’s time for us to take care of them,” he said.

As many as 1.5 million service members are expected to transition out of the military during the next five years, said Ortiz.

“We have a lot of young men and women coming out of the service who are having a hard time finding something,” he said, “because they don’t realize the resources are out there ... to help them find good opportunities and perhaps great careers.”

“We prepare them, we provide the information and skills they need to find good jobs and we protect their rights,” he said.

“DOL has so many facilities and so many pieces that help a veteran,

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## Shift Colors

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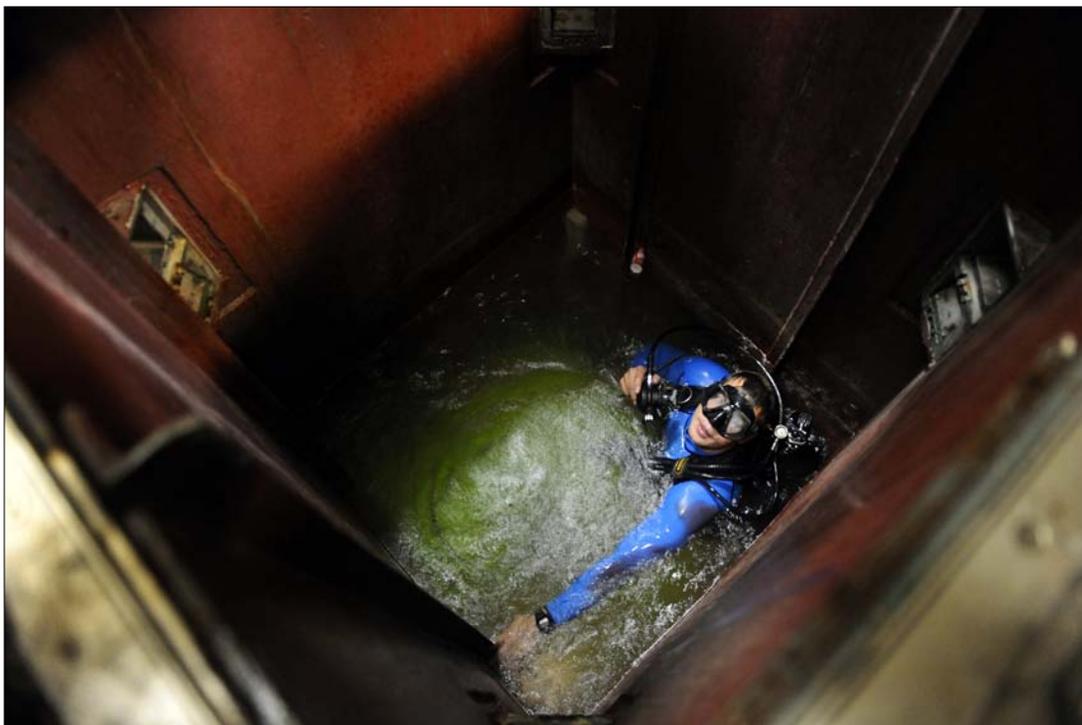


Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Shane Tuck

## Surfacing...

*Navy Diver 1st Class Brandon Holt, assigned to Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 2, Company 2-5, surfaces in a sea well aboard the USS Sentry (MCM 3) during the installation of a hull-trunk sensor for the ship's mine countermeasure sonar. Company 2-5 is deployed with Commander, Task Group 56.1, which provides maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.*

# How to apply for annual SecNav Retiree Council

Applications are now being accepted for the Secretary of the Navy Retiree Council. Applications must be received by Sept. 30. Here's how to apply:

Submit a one (1)-page bio/resume with the following:

- Your full name, address, phone number, e-mail address and Social Security Number. (Left side top)
- One paragraph highlighting your military career to include highest rank achieved, designator (if applicable), military specialty, total years of active duty, total years of service (if applicable) and entry date. Provide a brief summary of current civilian career.
- One paragraph identifying all volunteer work, Retired Activities Office (RAO) affiliation, and/or membership in civic and other

organizations.

- Education and field of study as appropriate.
- A brief statement on how you can contribute to the RC.
- A recent 2 1/2 x 3 inch, head and shoulder photo. It is requested that picture be placed on the application at the top right hand corner.

Send applications to:  
Department of the Navy  
OPNAV N135C  
Retired Affairs  
5720 Integrity Drive  
Millington, TN 38055-6200  
Selection is scheduled for October with appointment scheduled for December. For more information, contact Navy Retired Affairs toll-free at (866) 827-5672 or (901) 874-4308.



Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class A.J. Jones

## Joint training...

*Lt. James Gensheimer climbs down a ladder onto a rigid hull inflatable boat during a visit, board, search and seizure training exercise between the Italian destroyer MM Luigi Durand De La Penne (D 560) and the guided-missile destroyer USS Farragut (DDG 99).*

## Manually produced IDs must be replaced

On Oct. 29, 2010, the Department of Defense (DOD) Human Resources Activity (DHRA) issued a memorandum that cancelled all manually produced government identification (ID) cards. DOD cancelled these typewriter-generated ID cards because they are not post-Sept. 11, 2001, compliant.

Manually produced ID cards lack required advanced security features that enable DOD officials to instantly verify personal identity through a secure and authoritative data source and are no longer considered a valid form of government identification. These ID cards were issued through use of a typewriter and are characteristically recognized by their lack of bar codes and/or magnetic strips.

Military installations are confiscating manually produced ID cards at base entrances as they pose a high personal identity security threat. Eligible retirees and family members with these ID cards can get the new Uniformed Services ID Card at any ID card issuance facility. To locate the nearest facility, go to <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl>.

Retirees are advised to contact the facility beforehand to determine what documents are needed to obtain the new ID card and whether an appointment is necessary.

## Veterans Crisis Line offers free, confidential assistance

The Veterans Crisis Line is a toll-free, confidential resource that connects veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Veterans Affairs responders.

Veterans and their loved ones can call 1-800-273-8255 and "Press 1" or chat online at [www.VeteransCrisisLine.net](http://www.VeteransCrisisLine.net) to receive free, confidential support 24/7 – even if the veteran is not registered with VA or enrolled in VA health care.

The professionals at the Veterans Crisis Line are specially trained and experienced in helping veterans of all ages and circumstances -- from veterans coping with mental health issues that were never addressed to recent veterans struggling with relationships or the transition back to civilian life.

Since its launch in 2007, the Veterans Crisis Line has answered more than 400,000 calls and made more than 14,000 life-saving rescues. In 2009, the Veterans Crisis Line added an anonymous online chat service, which has helped more than 4,000 people.

# VA to provide greater access to specialty care

*From the Department of Veterans Affairs*

WASHINGTON - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has implemented a new initiative, Specialty Care Access Network-Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (SCAN-ECHO), to increase access to specialty care services for veterans in rural and medically under-served areas through the use of videoconferencing equipment.

“We are committed to providing increased access to high-quality health care to veterans regardless of where they live,” said VA Secretary Eric K. Shinseki. “Through SCAN-ECHO, patients in rural areas with complex medical conditions are now able to receive specialty care treatment from their local VA physician.”

SCAN-ECHO is modeled after an outreach program developed by the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center’s Project ECHO. SCAN-ECHO enables specialty care

teams in areas such as diabetes, pain management, and Hepatitis C to use videoconferencing equipment to connect with veterans’ local primary care providers (PCPs) and Patient Aligned Care Teams. During a scheduled SCAN-ECHO clinic, the PCP presents a patient’s case and the specialty care team recommends a treatment plan. In addition to case presentations, formal clinical education is also provided.

This year, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), established a collaborative agreement with the Project ECHO program to educate and provide training materials to VHA staff. In addition, Project ECHO staff will be available for consultation as VHA’s program continues to expand and new Centers are added.

Eleven VA medical facilities currently serve as SCAN-ECHO Centers: VA Connecticut Healthcare System, West Haven, Conn.; VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, Penn.; Hunter

Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center, Richmond, Va.; Salem VA Medical Center, Salem, Va.; Louis Stokes VA Medical Center, Cleveland, Ohio; VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, Ann Arbor, Mich.; New Mexico VA Healthcare System, Albuquerque, N.M.; VA Eastern Colorado Healthcare System, Denver, Colo.; Portland VA Medical Center, Portland, Ore.; San Francisco VA Medical Center; and Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 22 (services split between VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System and VA San Diego Healthcare System).

These centers are piloting the original model as developed by Project ECHO and adapting it to the VHA. The program is currently being evaluated prior to a system wide expansion.

To date, 35 teams in 14 different specialties have been formed as of May, with 150 sessions held and a total of 690 consults completed.

# VA deploys new processing model for compensation claims

*From the Department of Veterans Affairs*

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced it is deploying a new model for processing compensation benefits claims at 16 VA regional offices. The new model is part of a comprehensive transformation plan designed to yield an estimated 150,000 to 200,000 additional compensation claim decisions annually, while ensuring Veterans most in need receive priority attention.

“This new model is a part of our comprehensive plan to eliminate the compensation claims backlog,” said VA Under Secretary for Benefits Allison A. Hickey. “Our redesigned model follows comprehensive planning and testing to ensure we have the right recipe for success.”

The new organizational model involves special handling of claims from veterans who are facing the most serious injuries or illnesses or experiencing financial hardships or homelessness, and therefore need immediate attention. Through a new “intake processing center,” claims are routed to one of three segmented lanes:

**Express:** Claims that have only one or two medical conditions, or have all the supporting documentation, medical evidence and service records needed for an expeditious rating decision—referred to as “fully developed claims”.

**Special Operations:** Claims requiring special handling because of the unique status of the veterans. These include financial hardship; homelessness; serious wounds, injuries or illnesses; Post Traumatic Stress Disorder associated with military sexual trauma; and former prisoner of war status.

**Core:** Claims with more than two medical conditions, or those that need additional evidence to make a decision.

The segmented-lanes approach helps increase speed and accuracy because the claims specialists become familiar with processing claims of similar complexity.

Veterans and their Veterans Service Organization representatives are encouraged to provide all the needed evidence along with their application in a “fully developed claim” in order to expedite the process.

Sixteen regional offices have received the new organizational and process model. These offices will also receive new technology systems and software upgrades. All 56 VA regional offices will have fully implemented all of the people, process, and technology initiatives in VA’s transformation plan by the end of 2013.

To learn more about how to file “fully developed claims” using VA’s new Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs), visit <http://benefits.va.gov/disabilityexams>.

# VA announces new grants to help end veterans homelessness

*From the Department of Veterans Affairs*

WASHINGTON – Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki announced the award of nearly \$100 million in grants that will help approximately 42,000 homeless and at-risk veterans and their families. The grants are going to 151 community agencies in 49 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

“We are committed to ending veteran homelessness in America,” said Shinseki. “These grants will help VA and community organizations reach out and prevent at-risk veterans from losing their homes.”

Under the Supportive Services for Veteran Families program, VA is awarding grants to private non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives that provide services to very low-income veteran families living in – or transitioning to – permanent housing. Those community organizations provide a range of services that promote housing stability among eligible very low income veteran families.

Under the grants, homeless providers will offer veterans and their family members outreach, case management, assistance in obtaining VA benefits and assistance in getting other

public benefits. Community-based groups can offer temporary financial assistance for rent payments, utility payments, security deposits and moving costs.

This is the program’s second year. Last year, VA provided about \$60 million to assist 22,000 veterans and family members.

In 2009, President Barak Obama and Shinseki announced the federal government’s goal to end veteran homelessness by 2015. The grants are intended to help accomplish that goal. According to the 2011 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress, homelessness among Veterans has declined 12 percent since January 2010.

Through the homeless Veterans initiative, VA committed \$800 million in FY 2011 to strengthen programs that prevent and end homelessness among veterans. VA provides a range of services to homeless Veterans, including health care, housing, job training, and education.

More information about VA’s homeless programs is available on the Internet at [www.va.gov/homeless](http://www.va.gov/homeless). Details about the Supportive Services for Veteran Families program are online at [www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp).

## VA announces partnership to house 10,000 homeless veterans in 2012

*From the Department of Veterans Affairs*

WASHINGTON— The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs announced that it will collaborate with the “100,000 Homes” Campaign and its 117 participating communities to help find permanent housing for 10,000 vulnerable and chronically homeless veterans this year.

“President Obama and I are personally committed to ending homelessness among veterans,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki. “Those who have served this Nation as veterans should never find themselves on the streets.”

The collaboration is intended to help accomplish Secretary Shinseki’s goal of ending Veteran homelessness in 2015. It will also support the ongoing work of the U.S Interagency Council on Homelessness and a host of state and local organizations working to implement “Opening Doors,” the federal plan to end chronic and Veteran homelessness. According to the 2011

Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress, homelessness among veterans has declined 12 percent since January 2010.

The initiative will better integrate the efforts of VA case managers and their local partners by leveraging VA resources and those of participants in the “100,000 Homes” campaign. The campaign’s national support staff will also work with VA to provide technical assistance to help communities reduce the amount of time necessary to house a single homeless Veteran.

As a result, community organizations will be better able to utilize the Housing and Urban Development’s Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program. The program is a coordinated effort by HUD, VA, and local housing agencies to provide permanent housing with case management and other support services for homeless veterans. The collaboration will also help VA increase the proportion of HUD-VASH vouchers that help house chronic and vulnerable home-

less individuals. Research indicates that this approach can successfully end homelessness for homeless veterans while also achieving significant public cost savings. From fiscal years 2008 to 2012, HUD has allocated funding to local public housing authorities to provide more than 47,000 housing choice vouchers to homeless veterans.

Volunteers in participating “100,000 Homes” communities will help the VA identify homeless veterans through their registry week process. Registry weeks are community-wide efforts in which volunteers canvass their neighborhoods to survey homeless individuals and gather information to help the VA expedite the housing process.

Campaign support staff will also offer quality improvement training designed to help reduce the amount of time necessary to house a homeless Veteran to 90 days or less. Pilot training in Los Angeles and New York City has already helped shave an average of 64 days from the Veteran housing process in these communities.

# Job training grants to assist nearly 9,000 homeless vets

By Terri Moon Cronk

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Some 8,600 homeless veterans will benefit from \$15 million in grant money for job training through the U.S. Department of Labor's Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program, Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis said.

The Labor Department has awarded the money to 64 organizations that help America's veterans, DOL officials said. The grant, officials added, will go to state and local workforce investment boards, local public agencies and similar groups that are familiar with their homeless veteran populations, and have shown they can provide help for them.

"As a nation, it is our sacred obligation to the countless fathers and mothers, to the sons and daughters who put their own lives on the line to protect ours," Solis said of efforts to assist homeless veterans. "No service member should ever have to come home and

be homeless. They should never have to go to sleep in cars, streets, under bridges, or in vacant homes."

The program will start on July 1, officials said.

Organizations receiving grants will provide a range of employment services to homeless veterans, officials said, including career counseling, resume preparation, skill development, job training and job placement -- in addition to support services such as transportation help, clothing, housing referrals and referrals to medical providers and substance abuse counselors.

"Our grantees are focused first and foremost on helping our veterans find good jobs and contribute to our economy," Solis said.

Solis said 61 percent of homeless veterans are between the ages of 35 and 54, and while most are men, the number of women homeless veterans is increasing. She added that fewer than 60,000 veterans are assumed to be

homeless any given night, a decline of more than 90,000 from four years ago.

"We're making some progress but we know we have to do more," Solis said.

DOL also works closely with the departments of Housing and Urban Development, Veterans Affairs and Health and Human Services to provide affordable housing for homeless veterans, Solis said.

"We know that once our veterans have shelter, [and have their] basic needs met, they're more likely to seek treatment for medical issues, substance abuse and mental health challenges. And with permanent housing, they're also more likely to seek employment," she said.

"As a new generation of American veterans comes home, we're reminded of the tremendous sacrifices made by our service men and women and our military families," Solis said. "No one pays a higher price for freedom than our veterans."

## SBA program helps veterans start businesses

By Terri Moon Cronk

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Transitioning service members and veterans will be able to learn how to become entrepreneurs through a U.S. Small Business Administration-sponsored pilot program, SBA Administrator Karen G. Mills said.

Operation Boots to Business: From Service to Startup is a pilot program designed to provide the training, tools and resources that transitioning service members and veterans will need to establish businesses, Mills said.

"We know that a quarter of veterans are interested in buying or starting their own businesses," she said.

The pilot program will begin at four Marine Corps bases: Quantico, Va., Cherry Point, N.C., and the Camp Pendleton and Twenty-nine Palms installations in California.

Mills said the SBA wants veterans to have the capital, advice and counsel-

ing, and access to federal contracting opportunities to start, build and grow successful businesses.

"Operation Boots to Business will increase their likelihood of success," Mills said.

The program has four phases:

- Exposure to entrepreneurship as a potential career path, which will be offered to all service members leaving the military;
- In-person and interactive classroom training;
- A feasibility analysis for potential business plans; and
- An eight-week online course outlining the basics of business ownership.

Mills said the SBA has partnered with the Defense and Veterans Affairs departments and a network of resources to train 20,000 returning Marines. By fiscal year 2013, she said, the program will be offered across the board to transitioning service members.



Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Megan Anuci

### All's well...

**Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Eric Stuart, a dive medical technician assigned to Naval Special Warfare Center, gives the OK sign to communicate that the Second Phase Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL (BUD/S) candidates are reacting normally during a pressure test in a recompression chamber. Dive medical technicians are required to enter the chamber with BUD/S students while administering a standard Navy pressure test to see how their bodies react in an underwater setting.**

# Review by VA clinicians assists health care providers

*From the Department of Veterans Affairs*

WASHINGTON – U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs clinicians offer a comprehensive review of the health concerns of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and practical management guidelines for primary care providers in an article entitled, “Post Deployment Care for Returning Combat Veterans.”

The article is published in the “Journal of General Internal Medicine,” the official journal of the Society of General Internal Medicine.

“We at VA are always seeking ways to improve the quality of health care we provide to our veterans,” Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki said. “This article provides valuable insight into the fastest-growing segment of the veteran population at a time they are currently returning from combat.”

Since September 11, 2001, approximately 2.4 million military personnel have deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, according to VA officials. The health care needs of this particular patient population are complex, officials said, and require a well-integrated interdisciplinary approach to care.

The article reviews how combat deployments can impact the physical, psychological, and social health of veterans and describes their unique health care needs. This includes the need for assessment and management of injuries associated with blast exposures [including mild traumatic brain injury] as well as mental health conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and substance abuse.

Other important health concerns discussed include chronic musculoskeletal pain, medically unexplained symptoms,

complications from environmental exposures, heightened suicide risk, sleep disturbances, and impairments in family, occupational and social functioning.

The article summarizes evidence which supports elevated frequencies of physiological and behavioral cardiovascular risk factors, including hypertension and tobacco use, raising concerns about future health implications for these veterans. In light of relationships between physical, psychological and psychosocial concerns in this population, the VA authors recommend an interdisciplinary approach to care directed toward mitigating the long-term health impacts of combat.

This comprehensive review by VA clinicians will help both VA and non-VA health providers offer veterans the best possible care as they return from combat.

## VA improves benefits information access

*From American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON – Nearly 1.7 million veterans and service members have registered for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) -Department of Defense (DOD) web portal, eBenefits, which provides online information and access to a wide variety of military and veteran benefits resources.

According to the VA, about 1.67 million users have signed up, and notes the strong pace of registrations for the site since its launch in October 2009 has allowed VA to exceed its fiscal year 2012 agency priority goal of 1.65 million users. That puts it on track to meet the 2013 goal of 2.5 million.

“We know that three out of four veterans who use VA services want to connect online, so we must be there for them with the information they need,” Allison Hickey, the VA’s undersecretary for benefits, stated in the release.

Hickey added that eBenefits “is clearly becoming the platform of choice for veterans seeking access.”

Veterans and service members new to the eBenefits website are guided through the registration process to get a full-access account, called a premier account which allows maximum ability to update personal information and learn about benefits without having to visit a VA facility.

A premier account also allows veterans to check the status of compensation and pension claims filed with VA. This feature, the most popular within the eBenefits application, had over 700,000 visits in June alone, according to VA.

On July 1, VA introduced its 11th consecutive quarterly release of improvements to the eBenefits application, including benefits eligibility email messages to service members as they reach career milestones and a new Career Center page.

VA says it has completed a record-breaking 1 million claims per year during the last two fiscal years and is on target to complete another 1 million claims in fiscal year 2012.



Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jayme Pastorio

### Preventive checks...

**Navy Diver 2nd Class Ben Mills assigned to Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 1, Company 1-5, conducts a survey of a buoy chain. Company 1-5 is deployed with Commander, Task Group 56.1.**

# When to update your DFAS account

*From the Defense Finance and Accounting Service*

The best time to make changes to your account is within the first two weeks of the month. This increases the likelihood of your request being completed before the next payday.

For example, the last day the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) was able to process changes for August payments was July 19. If they processed your change before July 19, it took effect Aug. 1. If they processed your change after July 19, it will take effect Sept. 1.

If you can't update your account via myPay or phone within the first two weeks of the month, or you are sending a form or written request by mail, assume the change won't be effective until the month following your next paycheck. This will reduce the potential for missed payments and lost or delayed correspon-

dence.

This is especially important if you're switching bank accounts and your retired pay is direct deposited. DFAS suggests leaving your old bank account open until you can verify that your payment is being sent to your new account.

Retirees often close their original bank account before their retired pay account is updated, causing their banks to return these payments as "undeliverable." When DFAS receives multiple "undeliverable" payments, they automatically suspend the retiree's pay account to avoid potential fraud.

For more information about making changes to your retired pay account, visit the DFAS Account Maintenance Page at <http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/manage/maintenance.html>, or call (800) 321-1080.



Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Elizabeth Merriam

## Gas, gas, gas...

**Sailors aboard the amphibious transport dock ship USS Green Bay (LPD 20) wear a joint service mask leakage detection canopy to test the seal integrity of their MCU-2P gas masks. Green Bay held fit testing for new gas masks in preparation for an upcoming deployment.**

# Differences between powers of attorney, guardianships for DFAS

*From the Defense Finance and Accounting Service*

As they become older, many retirees and annuitants choose to have a loved one handle their account. The two ways to do this are to appoint a Power of Attorney (POA), or in severe cases, have a court appoint a guardian or trustee.

## Power of Attorney

A POA can be useful for retirees and annuitants who are having trouble managing their accounts. However, it's important to know what a POA can and can't do.

Many states allow a POA to handle another person's finances regardless of that person's competency. These state laws often conflict with federal laws. Military retirement and annuities fall under federal law, which takes priority over state law.

A POA cannot make pay-related

changes for a retiree or annuitant. They can help with non-pay related issues.

These include:

- Mailing address changes
- Requesting account statements
- Requesting 1099R forms
- Completing reports of existence
- Completing and signing annuity applications
- Requesting copies of documents
- Requesting information protected by the Privacy Act of 1974

DFAS can't legally help POA with any of the above requests without a copy of the POA document.

## Guardian or Trustee

If you need a loved one to make all of the above changes as well as pay-related changes to your account, you will need to have a court-appointed guardian or trustee established. The courts will appoint a guardian or trustee if you

are deemed incompetent and unable to manage your own finances.

Before DFAS can legally make changes requested by a guardian or trustee, they need a certified copy of your court order that must include the seal of the court and the name of the appointed trustee.

If you are an annuitant receiving Survivor Benefit Plan payments, and you don't want to go through the courts, you can complete a Representative Payee Application. In addition to the application, you must include a signed physician statement.

As with a POA, you or your guardian should send DFAS a copy of the court order or your Representative Payee Application as soon as possible. This will ensure that DFAS is able to help your guardian or trustee without any delay.

# Protect yourself: Be cognizant of online scams

*From the Defense Finance and Accounting Service*

In today's world, protecting yourself online is almost as important as protecting yourself at home. Attempts to steal your identity, financial information and account numbers require everyone who uses e-mail, shops online or transacts business with banks, credit card companies or other financial agencies to be aware and protect themselves.

With millions of military, retired military and federal civilian employee customers, it's not unusual that the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) hears about attempts to lure individuals into revealing their personal information, including their myPay login credentials. These attempts range from enticing email messages disguised as official notices from DFAS or some other federal agency to warnings about some situation that can only be resolved with you "confirming" your profile information.

Here are some examples of e-mail scams received by our customers:

- Remittance of Unclaimed Funds (<http://www.dfas.mil/pressroom/onlineprotection/fundremittancescam.html>)
- Show Your Love - Fiancee Benefits Scam (<http://www.dfas.mil/pressroom/onlineprotection/fianceebenefits.html>)

If you've received e-mails supposedly from DFAS that you think are attempts to defraud you, call our customer service number to verify if we are attempting to contact you regarding some pay-related issue. Also, please read our policy regarding DFAS e-mail contact with customers.

You can also learn more about scams and how to protect your computer and home network at the following websites:

- FBI Internet Fraud ([http://www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud/internet\\_fraud](http://www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud/internet_fraud))
- U.S. CERT (Computer Emergency Readiness Team) - Using Caution with Email Attachments (<http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/tips/ST04-010.html>)
- U.S. CERT - Tips for non-technical computer users (<http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/tips/>)
- Federal Trade Commission - Computers & The Internet - includes info on scams, computer security, online shopping and other topics (<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/menus/consumer/tech.shtm>)
- OnGuardOnline - Common Online Scams (<http://onguardonline.gov/articles/0002-common-online-scams>)
- Internet Crime Complaint Center (a partnership between the FBI and the National White Collar Crime Center) (<http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>)

## Navigating myPay: DFAS offers tips and tricks

*From the Defense Finance and Accounting Service*

The most convenient and quickest way to update your retired pay account with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) is with myPay - <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>. Here are some tips and tricks that might help you use myPay more effectively.

1. You don't need a new Login ID and password when you transition from active duty to retirement.

You can continue to use the myPay login ID and password you used on active or reserve duty. Your new retirement pay account will be available by the second of the month after your first payment. It will show up as a new menu, similar to the menu you had while on active duty.

2. You only need to request a temporary password when you first create your account or forget your password.

If you created a permanent password

but you haven't logged in for a while, you can continue to use that password.

If you don't remember your permanent password, or you received a temporary password and never logged in to your myPay account, you will have to request a new temporary password. Try our troubleshooting instructions on how to request a new temporary password if you've never logged in to myPay - [http://www.dfas.mil/dms/dfas/rapay/pdf/mypay\\_newaccount.pdf](http://www.dfas.mil/dms/dfas/rapay/pdf/mypay_newaccount.pdf).

3. Not all changes are made in real time.

Your account will be updated within three to seven business days when you use myPay. Upon completion and acceptance of a change, myPay will display a "No later than" date. Your change will be effective on or before the date myPay displays. You can verify the change to your account by logging in three to seven business days after you make the change.

Additionally, after making a change to

allotments or federal tax withholding, retirees will receive a Retiree Account Statement (RAS) in the mail reflecting the change in their net pay unless they have elected to receive their RAS electronically. Annuitants will receive a pay statement in the mail each time they make a change to their accounts.

Your email address, password and login ID are updated in real time.

4. Not all allotments can be started, stopped or changed using myPay.

You can make and update Electronic Funds Transfer allotments to financial institutions in myPay. You cannot make changes to insurance, charity, loan, home loan, and treasury (debt) allotments. For more information about updating your allotment, visit the Allotments page - <http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/manage/allotments.html>.

For more information, visit the DFAS website at [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil) or call (800) 321-1080.

# TRICARE enrollment fees set to increase

From TRICARE

All TRICARE Prime enrollees are required to pay annual enrollment fees, except:

- Active duty service members
- Active duty family members
- Transitional [survivors](#)
- Beneficiaries under age 65 with Medicare Parts A and B

New TRICARE Prime enrollment fees for uniformed service retirees and their families will begin on Oct. 1. 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 (NDAA) for fiscal year (FY) 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’s how the increase will affect you

If enrolled before Oct. 1, 2011:

What you pay now

Individual: \$230 per year

Family: \$460 per year

Beginning Oct. 1

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

Individual: \$260 per year

Family: \$520 per year

Beginning October 1, 2012

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 an FY 2013 budget. It is recommended you pay monthly or quarterly.

Annual Payment

Individual: \$269.28

Family: \$538.56

You will pay the annual payment in one lump sum. When you submit your enrollment form, your contractor will pro-

rate the fee from your enrollment date to Sept. 30. After that, your annual payment is due on Oct. 1 each year.

Quarterly Payment

Individual: \$67.32

Family: \$134.64

Quarterly payments are equal to one quarter of the annual fee amount.

Monthly Payment

Individual: \$22.44

Family: \$44.88

Monthly payments are equal to one-twelfth of the annual fee amount.

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.

## 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 the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) in either category and enrolled in Prime, as long as there is a continuous Prime enrollment.

If enrolled before Oct. 1, 2011

Individual: \$230/year

Family: \$460/year

If enrolled on or after Oct. 1, 2011 but before Oct. 1, 2012

Individual: \$260 per year

Family: \$520 per year

If enrolled on or after Oct. 1:

Individual: \$269.28/year

Family: \$538.56/year

## Could the enrollment fees increase again?

There is a possibility that you may have another enrollment fee increase later in the year if new fees are included when Congress passes the final FY 2013 budget. If the fees are changed, they will be reported. If that doesn’t happen, enrollment fees are subject to increase each October. Visit [www.tricare.mil/costs](http://www.tricare.mil/costs) for the most up-to-date information about your health care costs.

# TRICARE Young Adult extends coverage to age 26

From TRICARE

Every spring, thousands of young people graduate from college and start lives on their own as independent young adults. Many come from military families and had TRICARE coverage their entire lives.

For most of these dependent children, TRICARE coverage ends at age 21 (or 23, if they're enrolled in college full-time). Unfortunately, in our current uncertain economic times, many young people don't find a job with health insurance immediately after leaving home or college. For these dependents, TRICARE now offers a few extra years of coverage during a critical time.

TRICARE Young Adult (TYA) is a new program that allows young adults to continue TRICARE coverage until they turn 26. The two options available

are TYA Standard and TYA Prime. TYA Standard offers the TRICARE Standard coverage and TYA Prime gets you the TRICARE Prime coverage. With the Standard option, it allows you to visit any TRICARE network provider without a referral, but with less access to military treatment facilities (MTF) care. The Prime option requires you to have a primary care manager who coordinates your care, and Prime beneficiaries have greater access to MTFs. You can compare the two plans side by side and pick which one is right for you at [www.tricare.mil/ComparePlans](http://www.tricare.mil/ComparePlans).

TYA coverage is premium based, which means you pay a monthly fee for the coverage. In 2012, the costs are \$176 per month for TYA Standard and \$201 per month for TYA Prime. TYA premiums are set each year, and must

cover the full cost of the benefit. TYA is only available if you are unmarried and are not eligible for health coverage through your employer.

In 2010, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported that nearly 27 percent of Americans aged 18-24 did not have health insurance. People in this age group may feel invulnerable, but the reality is they can still become seriously ill or injured despite their youth. Others enter this age range already suffering from a chronic illness. TYA is designed to ensure our young people continue to have the care they need during this time of their lives.

TYA is a quick, easy, and painless process. To see if TYA coverage is right for you, or for a loved one, visit [www.tricare.mil/tya](http://www.tricare.mil/tya).

## Beware of potential scam

From TRICARE

The TRICARE Program Integrity office has become aware of a lottery sweepstakes scam where "winners" receive a fraudulent check with the TRICARE name. Targeted individuals are contacted by mail with a letter stating they're "winners" of a USA lottery sweepstakes for \$250,000 accompanied with the fraudulent check. The letter tells the "winner" the check is a portion of the winnings used to help pay taxes, insurance, handling, and shipping fees. The "winner" is also told to return a portion of the funds from the cashed check. Those receiving this letter and check should be aware that a third party may be trying to gain access to their bank accounts, or other personal information.

TRICARE beneficiaries who receive this lottery sweepstakes scam letter and check are encouraged to report it to their contractor's program integrity office:

North Region: [Health Net Federal Services](#)

South Region: [Humana Military Healthcare Services](#)

West Region: [TriWest Healthcare Alliance](#)

Pharmacy Program: [Express Scripts Inc.](#)

TRICARE For Life: [Wisconsin Physician Services](#)

Reports can also be made to the TRICARE Program Integrity office by e-mailing the TRICARE Fraud Line at [FRAUDLINE@tma.osd.mil](mailto:FRAUDLINE@tma.osd.mil) or by faxing 1-303-676-3981.

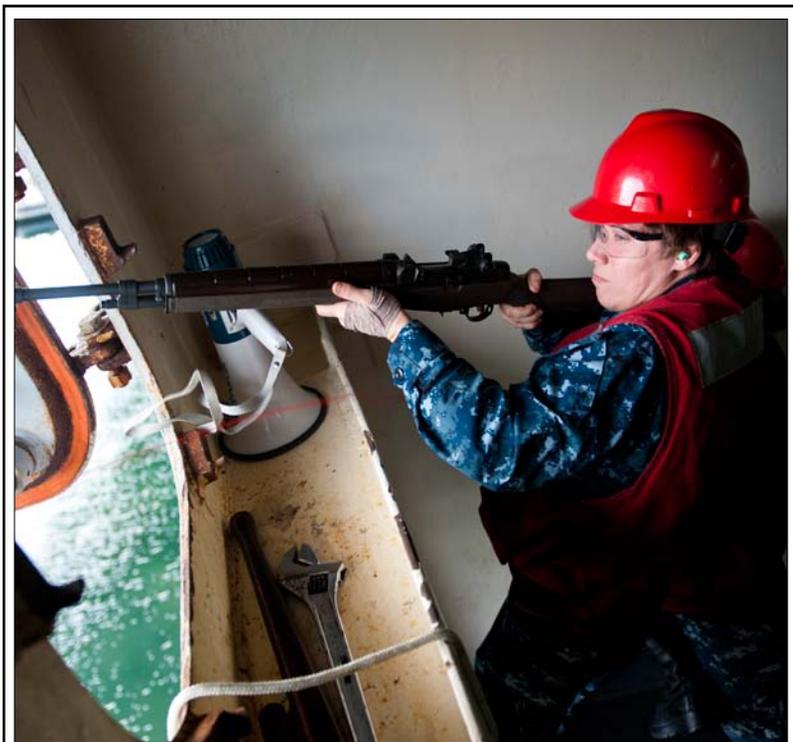


Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Kenneth Abbate

### Ready, aim...

**Aviation Ordnanceman Airman Breanna Heidel, from Neosho, Wis., fires the messenger line to the pier from the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) as the ship pulls into Bremerton, Wash. Stennis is returning to its homeport after conducting sustainment exercises off the coast of California.**

# Retirees, family members sign up for home delivery

From TRICARE

Beneficiaries who use TRICARE pharmacy home delivery get prescription medications shipped conveniently to their door. Home delivery also gives beneficiaries the option of automatic prescription refills when their medication supply is running low.

“Automatic refills lower the chances of unsafe breaks in medication therapy, which can lead to emergency room visits, hospitalizations and other health care setbacks,” said Rear Adm. Thomas J. McGinnis, chief of TRICARE Pharmacy Operations. “Auto refills or reminders are especially helpful for anyone being treated for chronic,

long term conditions. It also cuts down on last minute dashes to a retail pharmacy.”

TRICARE beneficiaries can include prescriptions in the automatic refill program when they first sign up for Home Delivery, or they can go back later on to select that feature. Then, seven days before an automatic refill is scheduled for shipping, beneficiaries are reminded by email or phone that their medication supply may be running low. Unless they contact Express Scripts Inc. (ESI), the TRICARE pharmacy contractor, the prescription will be automatically refilled.

“Automatic prescription refills offer

convenience and peace-of-mind to TRICARE beneficiaries,” McGinnis said. “And it helps us meet our firm commitment to their health.”

Beneficiaries using home delivery rather than civilian retail pharmacies also save money. Copayments at retail pharmacies are three times higher for a 90 day supply of the same medication — up to \$176 more per year for a brand name prescription. Beneficiaries switching from retail to home delivery also helped the Department of Defense save \$30 million in 2010.

For more information about home delivery, visit the TRICARE website at [www.tricare.mil/homedelivery](http://www.tricare.mil/homedelivery).

## Retiree need-to-know info

### Gray area retiree

Retired reservists under the age of 60 who have questions regarding their entitlements and benefits should call 1-866-827-5672 and ask for PERS 912.

### Volunteer your service

The Navy currently has 32 Retired Activities Offices (RAO) worldwide that are staffed by retiree volunteers. The Navy depends heavily on volunteers to run these offices. The volunteers are trained to assist other retirees, their families and survivors in receiving their earned benefits, aid family members when a retired service member dies, and plan and conduct annual Retiree Appreciation Days or Retiree Seminars. Most RAO volunteers spend a few hours a week in the office. If you are interested in being a volunteer, please contact your nearest RAO or call the Navy's RAO program manager at (866) 827-5672 ext. 4308.

### Change of address

The simplest and quickest solution for changing your mailing address is through the myPay website at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service's online account management system. For questions or concerns regarding myPay web site, call 1-888-332-7411 for a customer service representative.

Otherwise, if you are a retiree please mail your change of address form or request to:

DFAS U.S. Military Retired Pay

P.O. Box 7130

London, KY 40742-7130

Or FAX DFAS Retired Pay at: 1-800-469-6559

If you are an annuitant please mail your request to:

DFAS U.S. Military Annuitant Pay

P.O. Box 7131

London, KY 40742-7131

Or FAX DFAS Annuitant Pay at: 1-800-982-8459

Or, both retirees and annuitants may call DFAS Retired and Annuitant Pay directly at: 1-800-321-1080

If submitting your request in writing, please include both your old and new mailing address, along with the effective date for the new address. In addition, please include your name, social security number and signature with date on your request.

### Arrears of Pay beneficiary change

Your Arrears of Pay (AOP) beneficiary is the person who will receive your final pro-rated paycheck in the event that you pass away. DFAS will also contact this person for help with closing your account.

If you need to change your AOP beneficiary, please do so by completing a Designation of Beneficiary Information Form (DD 2894, at [www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/infomgt/forms/eforms/dd2894.pdf](http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/infomgt/forms/eforms/dd2894.pdf)) and mailing it to DFAS Retired and Annuitant Pay.

**CBOCs, from Page 1** — ates the largest integrated health care system in the country. VA will provide health care to about 6.1 million patients in fiscal year 2012 and 80 million outpatient visits.

The first of the new CBOCs will become operational during the latter part of 2012, with openings

continuing through 2015. Local VA officials will keep their veterans, communities, congressional offices and other stakeholders informed of the progress of the new CBOCs.

A list of the new community clinics and planned activation follows:

Arizona – Northeast Phoenix/Maricopa (2012/2013)

Georgia – Tifton/Tift (2012/2013)

Kansas – Lenexa/Johnson County (2013)

Maryland – St. Mary's (2013)

Missouri – Marshfield/Webster (2013), Platte City/Platte (2012/2013), Springfield/Greene (2015)

North Carolina – Sanford/Lee (2012/2013)

Ohio – Georgetown/Brown (2012/2013)

Oregon – Portland Metro South/Clackamas (2012/2013), Grants Pass/Josephine (2012/2013)

Pennsylvania – Huntingdon (2013), Indiana (2013)

For more information about VA's health care services, please visit [www.va.gov/health/](http://www.va.gov/health/).

## **JOB PATH, from Page 1** —————

it's like being on a military team," he added.

Ortiz outlined just a few of DOL's resources for transitioning service members and veterans:

--The Transition Assistance Program, also known as the Employment Workshop, ensures service members have the information they need to make a successful transition back to civilian life, and helps them determine how their military skills transfer to civilian jobs – something Ortiz says people underestimate.

"That's one of the biggest problems we have," he said of service members who aren't sure how to market themselves for a job. "We teach them how to translate [their military experience] to a resume and their skill sets into viable aspects so they can get a job," he said.

--The One-Stop-Career centers -- 2,800 nationwide -- help people obtain training and other support to secure a job. The center serves as a resource to explore careers, salaries and benefits, obtain education and training, do job searches, learn how to write resumes and do interviews.

Transitioning service members become part of the DOL's Gold Card Initiative following completion of TAP. The gold card gives them six months of intensive one-on-one work with a veterans outreach program. "The gold card is a great way to get them to a One-Stop-Career center and set them up for a good job," Ortiz said.

-- My Next Move for veterans helps transitioning service members determine their eligibility for jobs. By putting their military occupational specialty into a program to find a civilian-equivalent job, they're coached on how to compete for a job, what it pays, and how and where those particular jobs are available across the country, Ortiz said. The program also allows service members to apply for jobs online.

-- Hiring Our Heroes is a DOL program that partners with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to conduct job fairs in cities across the country, Ortiz said. Hiring officials from the local area talk to transitioning service members and veterans about their companies, and can interview and even hire them on the spot or later, he said.

-- The Veterans Retraining Assistance Program is training in which DOL, the Veterans Affairs Department and other agencies work together to give veterans' employment "the full push," Ortiz said. DOL and the VA have created a seamless transition in VRAP, he said, to help veterans find jobs. It is open only to veterans who are between the ages of 35 and 60, unemployed and have exhausted all benefits for job training.

Under VRAP, Ortiz said, DOL determines a veteran's eligibility, then VA works with them to decide what abilities they have. The VA also arranges for training and certification in their field, and returns them to DOL to begin looking for work through the One-

Stop-Career center program.

Service members have grown up in the military culture of success, and working as a team is their mindset until they look for a job on their own, Ortiz said.

"They don't have that person in front, beside or behind them to protect them anymore," he said. "We train them to be successful. ... We want to transition them and let them know that they, in fact, do have a person in front, right next to them and behind them."

Because service members sometimes struggle to translate military skills into civilian job skills, Ortiz suggests hiring officials more on talking to the veteran applicant. "Nine times out of ten, what the hiring official is looking for, that individual already has," he said.

"I tell [hiring managers], 'Do you really think an 18-year-old kid who came into the service and learned how to put together and take apart a radar system of an F-18 aircraft really had all those skill sets when he first walked in? He or she had to learn those things. And if they're able to do that, imagine what they'll be able to do in any company.'"

There also are the "intangibles" of employing veterans, he said, such as loyalty, duty, honor, trustworthiness, a solid work ethic, and how as team members, they work under pressure.

"You have someone who will work because it's part of their culture," Ortiz said. "They want to be successful ... and bringing that success in will also build the company up."

# Retiree checklist: What survivors should know

Shift Colors periodically provides a checklist for retirees and their family members. This checklist is designed to provide retirees and their loved ones with some help in preparing for the future.

❑ Create a military file that includes a copy of retirement orders, separation papers, DD Form 214, medical records, and any other pertinent military paperwork. Make sure your spouse knows the location and telephone number of the nearest military installation.

❑ Create a military retired pay file that includes the following contact information for the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and Navy Personnel Command:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service  
U S Military Retirement Pay  
Post Office Box 7130  
London, KY 40742-7130  
(800) 321-1080 press or say "1" (for deceased members)

Department of the Navy  
OPNAV N135C  
Retired Activities Branch  
5720 Integrity Drive  
Millington, TN 38055-6220  
(866) 82705672

(This file should also include the number of any pending VA claim as well as the address of the local VA office; a list of deductions currently being made from retired pay or VA benefits. Also include the name, relationship and address of the person you have designated to receive any unpaid retired pay at the time of death. This designation is located on the back of your Retiree Account Statement)

❑ Create an annuities file. This file should contain information about the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RCSBP) or the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan (RSFPP), or any applicable Civil Service annuity elected by the member, etc. Additional information regarding SBP, RCSBP and RSFPP annuity claims can be obtained from DFAS office at (800) 321-1080.

❑ Create a personal document file that has copies of marriage certificates, divorce decrees, adoptions and naturalization papers.

❑ Create an income tax file. Include copies of both of your state and federal income tax returns.

❑ Create a property tax file. Include copies of tax bills, deeds and any other related documents/information.

❑ Create an insurance policy file. Include life, property, accident, liability and hospitalization policies.

❑ In a secure location, maintain a list of all bank accounts (joint or individual). Include the location of all deposit boxes, savings bonds, stocks, bonds and any securities owned.

❑ In a secure location, maintain a list of all charge accounts and credit cards. Include account numbers and mailing addresses.

❑ Maintain a list of all associations and organizations of which you are a member. Some of them could be helpful to your spouse.

❑ Maintain a list of all friends and business associates who may be helpful. Include name, address and telephone number.

❑ Discuss your plans/desires with respect to the type and location of your funeral service. You should decide about cremation, which cemetery, ground burial, etc. If your spouse knows your desires, it will resolve some of the questions that might arise at a later date.

❑ Visit a local funeral home and pre-arrange your services. Many states will allow you to pre-pay for services.

❑ Investigate the decisions that you and your family have agreed upon. Many states have specific laws and guidelines regulating cremation and burials at sea. Some states require a letter of authority signed by the deceased in order to authorize a cremation. Know the laws in your specific area and how they may affect your decisions. Information regarding Burials at Sea can be obtained by phoning the Mortuary Affairs Division at (866) 787-0081.

❑ Once your decisions have been made and you're comfortable with them, have a will drawn up outlining all your wishes and store it in a secure location with your other paperwork.

❑ When all the decision-making and documenting is completed, sit back and continue to enjoy life.

## Who should be notified in the event of my death?

1. Defense Finance and Accounting Service (800) 321-1080
2. Social Security Administration (for death benefits) - (800) 772-1213
3. Department of Veterans Affairs (if applicable) - (800) 827-1000
4. Office of Personnel and Management (if applicable) - (724) 794-8690
5. Any fraternal group that you have membership with
6. Any previous employer that provides pension or benefits.

The above information is not all-inclusive and should be used with other estate planning tools to lessen trauma to your loved ones.

# Reunions

Check the Shift Colors Web page (<http://www.npc.navy.mil/ReferenceLibrary/Publications/ShiftColors/>) for a full listing of Reunions

REUNION 2012	DATE	PHONE NUMBER	E-mail/Web address
American Association of Navy Hospital Corpsmen	Sept. 19-23	(850) 626-1125	<a href="http://www.aonhc.org">www.aonhc.org</a>
Destroyer Leader Association DL 1, DL 2, DL 3, DL 4, DL 5, DDG 35 & DDG 36	Sept. 10-13	(540) 345-5826	<a href="mailto:destroyerleader1@cox.net">destroyerleader1@cox.net</a> <a href="http://www.destroyerleaderassociation.org">www.destroyerleaderassociation.org</a>
Diesel Fast Attack Submarines Association Tang Class Boats: USS Tang (SS563) USS Trigger (SS564) USS Wahoo (SS565) USS Trout (SS566) USS Gudgeon (SS 567) USS Harder (SS 568) USS Darter (SS 576)	Sept. 2-9	(941) 761-2234	<a href="mailto:dcraw2@tampabay.rr.com">dcraw2@tampabay.rr.com</a>
Edsall Class Veterans All Ships Reunion	Nov. 9-11		<a href="http://www.edsallclassveterans.org">www.edsallclassveterans.org</a> <a href="mailto:machief@hughes.net">machief@hughes.net</a>
HELATKTRON-3 Seawolves	Sept. 19-23	(678) 622-9184	<a href="mailto:seawolf77@aol.com">seawolf77@aol.com</a> <a href="http://www.seawolf.us">www.seawolf.us</a>
MCB 11 and 11th NCB SeaBees	Sept. 27-30	(512) 267-8837	<a href="mailto:mcb11.reunion@earthlink.net">mcb11.reunion@earthlink.net</a>
Mine Division 113 Vietnam	Sept. 27-30	(651) 455-1876	<a href="mailto:minediv113reunion@msn.com">minediv113reunion@msn.com</a>
NAF Washington	Sept. 13-16	(757) 271-8227	<a href="mailto:nafwashington2012@yahoo.com">nafwashington2012@yahoo.com</a>
Naval Construction Force Support Unit Three	Oct. 6	(352) 473-2850	<a href="mailto:alfcar23@bellsouth.net">alfcar23@bellsouth.net</a>
Naval Reserve Center Altoona, PA	Sept. 29	(814) 696-3366 (814) 944-1405	<a href="mailto:rjbentley@atlanticbb.net">rjbentley@atlanticbb.net</a> <a href="mailto:mpaltoona@atlanticbb.net">mpaltoona@atlanticbb.net</a>
Navy Cargo Handling Battalion 4	Nov. 9-10		<a href="http://www.nchb4.com">www.nchb4.com</a> <a href="mailto:nchb4reunion@yahoo.com">nchb4reunion@yahoo.com</a>
NOB/NAS Trinidad including Fasron 105, VPB-208, VPMS-8, VP-48, VPB-213, VP-34, and the USMC and SeaBee dets.	Aug. 29 - Sept. 1	(870) 496-2285	<a href="mailto:barrett27@dishmail.net">barrett27@dishmail.net</a>
NRCHB-6 (Cargo Handling Battalion Six)	Sept. 7-9	(845) 786-7086	<a href="mailto:chbsix.reunion@gmail.com">chbsix.reunion@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.chb-6.com">www.chb-6.com</a>
Submarine Veterans Convention	Sept. 2-9	(757) 872-9938	<a href="http://ussvi-2012convention.com">ussvi-2012convention.com</a>
U.S. Navy Competitive Shooters	Sept. 12-15	(317) 886-8186 (317) 289-8489	<a href="mailto:rsiefker@indyblue.com">rsiefker@indyblue.com</a> <a href="http://sites.google.com/site/usncompetitive-shootersreunion/home">http://sites.google.com/site/usncompetitive-shootersreunion/home</a>
USNR Midshipmen's School New York (Columbia University and the Prairie State)	Sept. 23-27	(210) 408-1766 (760) 384-4902	<a href="mailto:elcid8603@sbcglobal.net">elcid8603@sbcglobal.net</a> <a href="mailto:res16xt2r@verizon.net">res16xt2r@verizon.net</a>
USS ALSHAIN (AKA 55)	Sept. 30 - Oct. 4	(803) 438-1967	<a href="mailto:tclark@usa.com">tclark@usa.com</a>
USS AMERICA Carrier Veteran's Association	Sept. 11-15	(845) 661-1284 (888) 391-CV66	<a href="mailto:haton10@aol.com">haton10@aol.com</a> <a href="http://www.ussamerica.org">www.ussamerica.org</a>
USS ANTIETAM (CV/CVA/CVS 36)	Sept. 19-23	(316) 425-5693	
USS BENJAMIN STODDERT (DDG 22), USS JUPITER (AK 43/AVS 8)	Sept. 25-30	(805) 480-4038	<a href="mailto:jbdishaw@verizon.net">jbdishaw@verizon.net</a> <a href="http://www.ddg22.com">www.ddg22.com</a>
USS BERKELEY (DDG 15)	Sept. 19-23	(408) 656-3879	<a href="http://www.ussberkeley.com">www.ussberkeley.com</a>
USS BEXAR (APA 237)	Sept. 20-23	(360) 373-1093	<a href="mailto:ussbexar@comcast.net">ussbexar@comcast.net</a> <a href="http://www.mlrsinc.com/bexar">www.mlrsinc.com/bexar</a>
USS BON HOMME RICHARD (CV/CVA 31, LHD 6)	Sept. 13-15	(417) 684-1358	
USS BRADLEY (DE/FF 1041)	Sept. 12-15	(845) 634-3993	<a href="mailto:bgottsch@verizon.net">bgottsch@verizon.net</a> <a href="http://www.ussbradley.com">www.ussbradley.com</a> <a href="http://www.mlrsinc.com/bradley">www.mlrsinc.com/bradley</a>
USS BRUNSWICK (ATS 3)	Aug. 16-19	(816) 401-3978	<a href="mailto:sublett@kearney.k12.mo.us">sublett@kearney.k12.mo.us</a>
USS BRYCE CANYON (AD 36)	October	(619) 562-5690	<a href="mailto:thenez@cox.net">thenez@cox.net</a> <a href="http://www.mlrsinc.com/brycecanyon">www.mlrsinc.com/brycecanyon</a>
USS CANBERRA (CA 70/CAG 2)	Oct. 10-14	(740) 423-8976	<a href="mailto:usscanberra@gmail.com">usscanberra@gmail.com</a>
USS CANISTEO (AO 99)	Aug. 24-26		<a href="mailto:1r67shellby@aol.com">1r67shellby@aol.com</a>
USS CHEVALIER (DD 805)	Sept. 18-23	(850) 231-1818	
USS CHICKASAW (ATF 83)	Sept. 22-27	(208) 866-8325	<a href="mailto:addy964@msn.com">addy964@msn.com</a>
USS COLAHAN (DD 658)	Sept. 16-19	(941) 625-4260	<a href="mailto:lsagle102@comcast.net">lsagle102@comcast.net</a>

USS CONCORD (AFS/TAFS-5)	Sept. 26-30	(585) 394-6424	lpg@fronteirnet.net www.ussconcord.org
USS CONSTANT (MSO 427)	Oct. 5-7	(203) 743-7939	proig@snet.net
USS COURTNEY (DE 1021)	Sept. 6-9	(508) 248-5072	marc-a@charter.net www.newportdealeys.org
USS COWELL (DD 547)	Oct. 6-8	(864) 268-3365	lsalley3@charter.net
USS CROMWELL (DE 1014)	Sept. 6-9	(508) 248-5072)	marc-a@charter.net www.newportdealeys.org
USS DAMATO (DD/DDE 871)	Sept. 16-20	(706) 315-9117	stephen.scott@mchsi.com
USS DANIEL BOONE (SSBN 629)	Oct. 17-21	(803) 266-5189	www.ssb629.org/reunion-2012
USS DAVIS (DD 937)	Oct. 11-13	(860) 747-8761	ptlii37@aol.com
USS EPPING FOREST (LSD 4/MCS 7)	Sept. 5-8	(215) 498-2224	
USS EVERETT F LARSON (DD/DDR 830)	Sept. 16-20	(207) 439-2123	acollcnett@aol.com uss-everett-f-larson.com
USS FAIRVIEW (E-PCE(R) 850)	Sept. 23-27	(800) 377-6834	fjones@maine.rr.com
USS FARRAGUT (DD 348/DLG 6/DDG 37/DG 99)	Aug. 15-18	(732) 914-9056 (732) 575-6200	RKauffman10@comcast.net
USS FECHTELER (DD/DDR 870)	Oct. 12-14	(650) 340-8538	jimandfan@sbcglobal.net
USS FINCH (DE/WDE/DER 328)	Sept. 12-16	(417) 548-7428	nuttynuts@centurytel.net
USS FRANCIS MARION (APA/LPA 249)	Oct. 8-12	(781) 665-9222	swampfox249@verizon.net
USS GALVESTON (CLG 3)	Sept. 26-30	(866) 398-2655	galveston@comcast.net
USS GRAYBACK (SSG/LPSS/SS 574)	Sept. 27-29	(702) 810-8056	madimmick@cox.net ussgrayback574.com
USS HANSON (DD/DDR 832)	Sept. 20-23	(360) 262-9501	mjmcrego@msn.com
USS HENLEY (DD 762)	Sept. 6-9	(828) 766-5742	jerryblack5738@aol.com
USS HOLLISTER (DD 788)	Sept. 26-28	(518) 842-7126	gunder788@nycap.rr.com
USS HORNET (CV 8/CV 12/CVA 12/CVS 12)	Sept. 11-16	(814) 224-5063	hornetva@aol.com www.ushornetassn.com
USS HULL (DD 350/DD 945)	Oct. 16-19		reunion2012@usshullassociation.org www.usshullassociation.org
USS HUSE (DE 145)	Oct. 21-24	(561) 368-7167	dbp14@hotmail.com
USS INGERSOLL (DD 652, DD 990)	Sept. 27-30	(724) 547-5573	pdmolowski@verizon.net http://uss_ingersoll_vets.tripod.com/
USS JAMES K POLK (SSBN/SSN 645)	Oct. 11-14		reunion2012@ussjameskpolk.com
USS JOHN R. CRAIG (DD 885)	Sept. 12-16	(734) 525-1469	jermail@ameritech.net
USS JOUETT (DLG/CG 29)	Aug. 15-19	(360) 798-0816	mtsmith351@q.com www.ussjouett.com
USS L. Y. SPEAR (AS 36)	Sept. 5-9	(913) 677-1837	reunions@usslyspear.org www.usslyspear.org
USS LAFFEY (DD 724)	Sept. 23-26	(856) 423-4263	jill.michel@comcast.net www.laffey.org
USS LYMAN K SWENSON (DD 729)	Sept. 13-16	(828) 974-2224	www.DD729.com president@DD729.com
USS MCCAFFERY (DD 860)	Oct. 11-14		mccaffery2012@yahoo.com www.ussdd860.com
USS MCMORRIS (DE 1036)	Oct. 18-21	(972) 219-9674	julorgal@yahoo.com ussmcmorris.org
USS MITSCHER (DL 2/DDG 35)	Sept. 9-13	(410) 768-0751	mitscherdl2@cablespeed.com www.destroyerleaderassociation.org
USS MONSSEN (DD 436/798)	Sept. 9-12	(270) 563-6024	lemster2@windstream.net
USS NIMITZ (CVN 68)	Sept. 21-24	(916) 689-1461	edeats@frontiernet.net www.ussnimitzassociation.us
USS OKLAHOMA CITY Association (All shipmates who served on CL 91, CLG 5, CG 5, SSN 723)	Sept. 25-30	(620) 221-0343 (727) 215-0568	www.ussokcity.com
USS ORION	Oct. 9-13	(505) 286-4106	twopackards@swcp.com
USS PERKINS (DD 26, DD 377, DDR 877)	Sept. 12-16	(314) 397-2388	malinton@sbcglobal.net

USS PIEDMONT (AD 17)	Sept. 26-30	(785) 272-2604	bmk1930@sbcglobal.net www.theusspedmont.org
USS PLYMOUTH ROCK (LSD 29)	Sept. 20-25	(870) 236-3725 (847) 336-2151	tazrhondave@yahoo.com htajma@comcast.net www.usplymouthrock.com
USS RANDOLPH (CV/CVA/CVS 15), USS TERROR (CM 5)	Sept. 16-23	(321) 454-2344	
USS REMORA (SS 487)	Sept. 4-8	(401) 743-0985	jml0817@hotmail.com
USS ROBISON (DDG 12)	Sept. 6-9	(928) 775-0991	ddg12assn@gmail.com
USS SALISBURY SOUND (AV 13)	Oct. 22-25	(505) 293-3841	brubru@comcast.net salisbury-sound.org
USS SAM HOUSTON (SSBN/SSN 609)	Oct. 25-27	(302) 764-1197	howardvaldobson@verizon.net
USS SEADRAGON (SSN 584)	Sept. 5-7	(902) 469-0176	
USS SHANGRI-LA (CV/CVS/CVA 38)	Sept. 4-9		bobahay@comcast.net www.uss-shangri-la.com/reunion.html
USS SHENANDOAH (AD 26)	Oct. 5-7	(505) 890-0113	
USS SIMON LAKE (AS 33)	Sept. 23-27		www.usssimonlake.org
USS SKATE (SSN 578)	Sept. 2-9	(803) 619-1121	raysabode@bellsouth.net
USS STODDARD (DD 566)	Sept. 26-29	(206) 947-2303	dwithers@rodaxwireless.com
USS TAKELMA (ATF 113)	Sept. 13-19	(651) 455-1876	richard_rosemary@msn.com
USS TALLADEGA (APA 208)	Oct. 29 - Nov. 2	(760) 747-0796	sljosdal@cox.net
USS TIRU (SS 416)	Aug. 16-19	(702) 550-8722	usstiru.org
USS TULARE (AKA/LKA 112)	Aug. 24-26	(308) 991-8118 (308) 236-0227	
USS VALCOUR (AVP 55, AGF 1)	Sept. 14-16	(317) 776-9463	beerplumber@gmail.com
USS VESOLE (DD/DDR 878) 1945-1976	Sept. 26-30	(845) 896-2074	chiefny@earthlink.net
USS WARRINGTON (DD 843)	Oct. 3-7	(916) 791-6700	stashuman843@msn.com
USS WEXFORD COUNTY (LST 1168)	Sept. 27-30	(314) 994-1187	wexford.county.reunion@aol.com www.mlrsinc.com/wexford
USS WILHOITE (DE/DER 397)	Sept. 25-28	(479) 968-1236	canerday@suddenlink.net www.usswilhoite.org
USS WINDHAM BAY (CVE 92)	Sept. 9-11	(210) 495-4845	windhambay@aol.com http://sites.google.com/site/windhambay
VAP 61/62, VJ 61/62	Oct. 31 - Nov. 4	(757) 721-3077	templej2@cox.net
VP 24	Nov. 12-16	(407) 968-1916	david.pierce.fl@gmail.com
VP 44	Nov. 8-11	(229) 559-7959	genejanjay@aol.com vp44goldenpelicans.com
VP 45	Oct. 18-21	(601) 528-9374	bpj1927@yahoo.com vpassociation.org
VR-7/VR-8	Sept. 5 & 6	(765) 395-7935	dwimpelberg@yahoo.com
Women of the Sea Services (WAVES National)	Sept. 19-23	(813) 677-1405	greekirish@hotmail.com www.womenofthewaves.com
WWII Navy Scouting Squadrons	Sept. 11-13	(912) 925-4066	dcanthony66@comcast.net
REUNION 2013	DATE	PHONE NUMBER	E-mail/Web address
NAS Chase Field	April 11-13	(562) 338-5088	www.naschasefield.com mwebb@naschasefield.com
USS SPINAX (SSR/SS 489)	May 20-24	(401) 849-7282	jhunter2007@cox.net
VA 23	June 24-28	(865) 523-2005	anderson032@comcast.net

# Retired Activities Office Phone Listing

## Arizona

Phoenix, AZ (NOSC)  
608-353-3033  
0900-1400 (Tue-Thu)

## California

China Lake, CA (NAVAIR-WPASTA)  
(760) 939-0978  
0900-1100 1300-1500  
(Mon-Fri)

Lemoore, CA (NAS)  
(559) 998-4042  
0800-1630 (Mon-Fri)

Point Mugu, CA  
(805) 982-3730  
0800-1600 (Mon-Fri)

San Diego, CA (CORONADO - NAS)  
(619) 437-2780  
0900-1200 (Mon-Fri)

San Diego, CA (NAVSTA)  
(619) 526-7412  
0800-1600 (Mon-Fri)

Seal Beach, CA (NWS)  
(562) 626-7152  
0900-1500 (Mon-Fri)

## Connecticut

Groton, CT (SUBASE)  
(860) 694-3284  
0900-1500 (Mon-Fri)

## Florida

Jacksonville, FL (NAS)  
(904) 542-2766 Ext 126  
0900-1500 (Mon-Fri)

Mayport, FL (NAVSTA)  
(904) 270-6600 Ext 122  
0730-1600 (Mon-Fri)

Milton, FL (NAS WHITING FIELD)  
NAS Whiting Field  
Call for Appt  
(850) 623-7177

Pensacola, FL (NAS)  
(850) 452-5990 Ext 3111  
0900-1300 (Mon-Fri)

## Hawaii

Pearl Harbor, HI (NAVSTA)  
(808) 474-1999 Ext 6317  
0800-1500 (Mon-Fri)

## Illinois

Great Lakes, IL (NTC)  
847) 688-3603 Ext 118  
0900-1300 (Mon, Wed, Fri)

## Louisiana

New Orleans, LA (NAS JRB)  
0900-1200 (Mon-Fri)  
(504) 678-7568

## Massachusetts

Quincy (NOSC)  
0900-1200 call for appt  
(617) 753-4636/26

## Michigan

Mt. Clemens, MI (SEL ANGB)  
(586) 307-5580  
0900-1500 (Tue-Fri)

## Minnesota

Minneapolis, MN (NOSC)

(612) 726-9391  
1000-1430 (Tue/Thu)

## Missouri

Bridgton, MO (NOSC)  
(314) 263-6443  
Call for appt

## Maine/New Hampshire

Portsmouth, NH (Naval Ship Yard)  
(207) 438-1868  
1000-1400 (Tue-Thu)

## New York

Farmingdale, NY  
(631) 768-3270  
Call for appt  
1000-1400 (Mon-Fri)

## Rhode Island

Newport, RI (NAVSTAMPT)  
(401) 841-4089  
0900-1200 (Mon-Fri)

## South Carolina

Charleston, SC (NAVW-PNSTA)  
(843) 764-7480  
Call for appt

## Washington

Everett, WA (NAVSTA)  
(425) 304-3775  
1-888-463-6697 opt 5 then  
opt 2 ask for RAO  
1000-1300 (Mon-Fri)

Whidbey, Island, WA (NAS)  
(360) 257-8054/55  
0900-1500 (Mon-Fri)

Bremerton (NAVSTA)  
Fleet and Family Support  
Center  
(360) 396-4115

## Wisconsin

Milwaukee, WI (NOSC)  
(414) 744-9766  
0900-1500 (Mon-Fri)

## Tennessee

Millington, TN (NAVSUP-PACT)  
(901) 874-5147  
1000-1400 (Tues-Thurs)

## Texas

Ft. Worth, TX (NAS JRB)  
(817) 782-5287  
0800-1600 (Mon-Fri)

Houston, TX (NOSC)  
(832) 380-7412  
0800-1200 (Mon-Fri)

## Virginia

Hampton Roads Regional  
Office  
Little Creek, VA (NAB)  
(757) 462-8663  
1000-1400 (Mon-Fri)

Norfolk, VA (NAVSTA)  
(757) 444-5950  
1000-1400 (Mon-Fri)

## Europe

Navy Station Rota, SP  
Fleet and Family Support  
Center  
Hours of operation,  
1300-1600 (M, W, F)

Updated August 2012

# Ready Reference Contact Information

**Air Force Retiree Services:** (800) 531-7502; [www.retirees.af.mil](http://www.retirees.af.mil)  
**Arlington National Cemetery:** (703) 607-8000; [www.arlingtoncemetery.org](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.org)

**Armed Forces Retirement Home:** (800) 422-9988; [www.afrh.gov](http://www.afrh.gov)  
**Army & Air Force Exchange Service:** (214) 312-2011; [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com)

**Army Retired Services:** (703)325-9158; [www.armyg1.army.mil/retire](http://www.armyg1.army.mil/retire)

**Burial at Sea Information:** (866) 787-0081; [www.npc.navy.mil](http://www.npc.navy.mil)

**Combat Related Special Compensation:**  
[www.donhq.navy.mil/corb/crscb/crscmainpage.htm](http://www.donhq.navy.mil/corb/crscb/crscmainpage.htm)

**DEERS:** (800)-538-9552, Fax: (831) 655-8317;  
[www.tricare.osd.mil/deers](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/deers)

**Defense Commissary Agency:** [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com)

**DFAS Casualty Assistance Branch:** (800) 321-1080 or (216) 522-5955; (For Reporting a Retiree's death, option #1)

**Fleet Reserve Association:** (703) 683-1400; [www.fra.org](http://www.fra.org)

**Gulf War homepage:** [www.gulfink.osd.mil](http://www.gulfink.osd.mil)

**I.D. Cards Benefits and Eligibility:** (866) 827-5672;

[www.npc.navy.mil/support/paypers/ID\\_Cards/Pages](http://www.npc.navy.mil/support/paypers/ID_Cards/Pages)

**Internal Revenue Service:** (800) 829-1040; [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

**Marine Corps Retired Affairs:** (800) 336-4649; [www.usmc.mil](http://www.usmc.mil)  
(Hover over "Marine Services" then click on "Retired Services")

**Medicare:** (800) 633-4227. TTY: (877) 486-2048; [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)

**Military Officers Assoc. of America:** (800) 234-6622; [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)

**National Burial Services:** (800) 697-6940

**NPC Navy Reserve Personnel Management (PERS 9):** (866) 827-5672,  
[www.npc.navy.mil/career/reservepersonnelmgmt/Pages/](http://www.npc.navy.mil/career/reservepersonnelmgmt/Pages/)

**Navy Casualty Assistance:** (800) 368-3202

**Navy Retired Activities Office:** (866) U-ASK-NPC (866-827-5672)  
MILL [RetiredActivities@navy.mil](mailto:RetiredActivities@navy.mil);

[www.npc.navy.mil/support/retired\\_activities/Pages](http://www.npc.navy.mil/support/retired_activities/Pages)

**Navy Uniform Shop:** (800) 368-4088; [www.navy-nex.com/uniform](http://www.navy-nex.com/uniform)

**Navy Worldwide Locator:** (866) U-ASK-NPC (866-827-5672);  
[www.npc.navy.mil/organization/npc/csc/Pages/NavyLocatorService.aspx](http://www.npc.navy.mil/organization/npc/csc/Pages/NavyLocatorService.aspx)

**Reserve Component SBP:** (866) 827-5672 ask for PERS-912

**Retiree Dental — Delta Dental:** (888) 838-8737; [www.trdp.org](http://www.trdp.org)

**Servicemembers Group Insurance (SGLI):** (800) 419-1473;  
[www.insurance.va.gov](http://www.insurance.va.gov)

**Naval Historical Center:** (202) 433-2210; [www.history.navy.mil](http://www.history.navy.mil)

**Social Security Administration:** (800) 772-1213; [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

## TRICARE: [www.tricare.mil](http://www.tricare.mil)

**TRICARE North:** (877) TRICARE (874-2273); [www.hnfs.net/](http://www.hnfs.net/):  
CT, DC, DE, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH,  
PA, RI, VT, VA, WI, WV, some zips in IA, MO, TN

**TRICARE South:** (800) 444-5445; [www.humana-military.com](http://www.humana-military.com):  
AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, OK, SC, TN (except 35 TN zips near  
Fort Campbell), and TX (except the extreme SW El Paso area)

**TRICARE West:** (888) TRIWEST (874-9378); [www.triwest.com](http://www.triwest.com):  
AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, IA (except 82 zips near Rock Island),  
KS, MO (except St. Louis area), MN, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OR,  
DE, SW TX, UT, WA, WY

**TRICARE Overseas:** (888) 777-8343; [www.tricare.mil](http://www.tricare.mil)

**TRICARE For Life:** (866) 773-0404; [www.tricare.mil/tfl](http://www.tricare.mil/tfl)

**TRICARE mail order pharmacy:** (877) 363-1303;  
[www.tricare.mil/pharmacy](http://www.tricare.mil/pharmacy) [www.express-scripts.com](http://www.express-scripts.com)

## VA: [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

**Regional offices:** (800) 827-1000 (overseas retirees should  
contact the American Embassy/consulate), TDD (800) 829-4833

### Insurance:

VA Regional Office and Insurance Center

PO Box 7208 (claims inquiries) -ORPO

Box 7327 (loans) -ORPO

Box 7787 (payments)

Philadelphia PA 19101

(800) 669-8477; [www.insurance.va.gov](http://www.insurance.va.gov)

**Burial information:** (800) 827-1000; [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov)

**GI Bill:** (888) 442-4551; [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

## Records:

**For replacement DD 214, service records, medical records,  
award information:**

**Retired prior to 1995:** [www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records)

### Retired

**Retired after 1995:**

Navy Personnel Command

PERS-312E

5720 Integrity Drive

Millington, TN 38055-3120

Fax requests to: (901) 874-2664

**Gray-area reservists:** (866) 827-5672

## Navy recreation: [www.mwr.navy.mil](http://www.mwr.navy.mil)

**Navy Gateway Inns & Suites:** <http://dodlodging.net>

**ITT:** <http://navymwr.org/mwrprgms/itt.html>

## Sister service retiree publications:

**Air Force Afterburner:** [www.retirees.af.mil/afterburner](http://www.retirees.af.mil/afterburner)

**Army Echoes:** [www.armyg1.army.mil/rso/echoes.asp](http://www.armyg1.army.mil/rso/echoes.asp)

**Coast Guard Evening Colors:** <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg1/psc/ras>

**Marine Corps Semper Fidelis:** [www.manpower.usmc.mil/portal/page/portal/M\\_RA\\_HOME/MM/SR/RET\\_ACT/Semper\\_Fidelis](http://www.manpower.usmc.mil/portal/page/portal/M_RA_HOME/MM/SR/RET_ACT/Semper_Fidelis)

## Pay/SBP Questions: [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil)

**Pay inquiries and update of pay or SBP records in case of  
death, divorce or remarriage:**

### Retiree:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

U.S. Military Retirement Pay

P.O. Box 7130

London KY 40742-7130

(800) 321-1080, (216) 522-5955

### SBP/RSFPP annuitant:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

U.S. military Annuitant Pay

P.O. Box 7131

London KY 40742-7131

(800) 321-1080, (216) 522-5955



Photo by Andy Wolfe

## Testing the future...

*Navy test pilot Lt. Christopher Tabert pilots the first external stores flight of the F-35C Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter test aircraft. The F-35C is distinct from the F-35A and F-35B variants with larger wing surfaces and reinforced landing gear for greater control when operating in the demanding carrier take-off and landing environment.*