



SHIFT COLORS

The
★ Newsletter
for Navy
Retirees

Volume 52 Issue #2

Navy Personnel Command

Fall 2007

Combat Related Special Compensation Program Defined



Yes No

- Did you retire from the Navy or Marine Corps after 20 or more years of service?*
- Are you in receipt of retired pay?*
- Do you have a disability that the Veteran's Administration has determined is/are service connected?*
- Have you waived a portion of your retired pay in order to receive VA disability payments?*



If you have answered, "Yes" to all of the questions above, you may be eligible for Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) program.

CRSC came into effect June 2003 and was expanded in January 2004 to cover all retirees with combat-related disabilities of 10 percent or greater. It is designed to restore lost retired pay. CRSC is specifically for military retirees with combat related disabilities. The branch of service the member retired from, not the VA or DFAS makes combat related determinations. The retiree must apply using a standard CRSC application form. The "burden of proof" is on the applicant. Documents necessary to support a combat-related claim normally include the member's DD-214, VA Rating Decisions, Service Medical Records (SMR's), and service personnel records. The IRS does not tax CRSC payments nor are they subject to division with a former spouse.

Approval of a CRSC claim requires a direct causal relationship between the armed conflict or training exercise that simulates war and the resulting disability. Disabilities caused by slips, trips, and falls as well as those resulting from physical training are not combat-related. 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. When the VA rates a diagnosis as service connected, it means the retiree incurred the injury during a military career; not that it is combat-related. The VA is not chartered nor authorized to make combat-related determinations. Only the CRSC Board for each branch of service is authorized to make combat-related determinations.

In the event that the CRSC Board denies a combat-related claim, the

retiree may request reconsideration under the following circumstances:

- The retiree disagrees with the CRSC Board's decision
- The retiree is rated by the VA for a new disability that he/she believes is Combat Related
- The retiree has an increase in an already approved combat-related disability or is rated as Individually Unemployable (IU)

Once the CRSC Board determines a retiree has one or more combat related disabilities, it will inform DFAS and DFAS will effect payment. A retiree may be eligible for both CRSC and the Concurrent Retirement and Disability Payment (CRDP) program (for retirees with a combined disability rating of 50% or higher). If a retiree is eligible for both, DFAS will determine the most beneficial program and pay the retiree accordingly. DFAS has an open enrollment season in which

Continued on page 7.

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**Retired Activities Office (RAO) San Antonio, TX
volunteers**

Front Row, Seated L-R: John Fahsl, Liz Forsberg, Al Price, Norm Miller.
Standing L-R: Chuck Monroe, Doug Sabol, Don Mason, Jim Phinney, Jerri Taylor, Carl Marmion, Doris Hensley, Jim Taylor (Past Director), Robert McCurly and Bob Flaucher (Director). Absent are : Robert Wooster and Lionel Walling.

Shift Colors

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Chief of Naval Personnel

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From the Chief of Naval Personnel



critical, because they're the right thing to do for our people and they send an important message, which is "we care." These are important issues as Sailors and their families make choices about whether or not to stay Navy.

As you know, we've been steadily reducing our force size since 2002, and we've just about reached our active-duty target of 322,000 Sailors (officer and enlisted). We've civilianized a number of shore billets that didn't need to be manned by Sailors, and we've created a more sea-centric force. The resultant change is a sea-shore rotation of approximately 50 percent afloat / 50 percent ashore [formerly 30 percent afloat / 70 percent ashore]. This means Sailors will spend more time in sea going assignments. We didn't make this change blindly however. Surveys strongly indicate geographic stability is among Sailor's and their family's top priorities, along with job satisfaction [career advancement opportunities, professional development], pays, and quality of life. We're addressing each of these in a number of positive ways.

We plan to offer greater geographic stability to Sailors in exchange for their selecting back-to-back sea-duty assignments or returning to sea duty early from a shore assignment. Geographic stability means their children should be able to complete critical phases of education in the same school; their spouse can pursue a career if desired and develop some tenure in their position; and they can invest in and build equity in a home. We're also offering Sea Duty Incentive Pays (SDIP) – as high as \$18k!

Of utmost importance to our Sailors is their opportunity for advancement. Since 2005, we've steadily increased the advancement rate across the board and have made promotion more stable and predictable by moving to longer-range forecasting model. We've also boosted our Selective Re-enlistment Bonuses (SRB) to the highest level in nearly two decades. Tuition Assistance for

education continues to be one of the biggest perks for young men/women seeking educational opportunities and we remain committed to fully funding this benefit. Sabbaticals, telecommuting and flexible work hours are also initiatives my Task Force Life Work (TFLW) cross-functional team is exploring with fleet representatives from every rank, rate and community to afford our Sailors opportunities to better manage and enjoy their family lives and work.

We have a tremendous array of incentives to offer Sailors today; in fact, in my 34-year career, I've never known a better time for Sailors and their families to be in the Navy. I emphasize these because I want you to know that we're taking action to retain quality Sailors, and secondly because I need your help in informing prospective candidates, parents, teachers, coaches and youth group leaders of the opportunities that exist in our service.

Recruiting is no small challenge today. We've moved past the patriotic 9-11 upwelling, and we're now facing an extremely low public propensity to join the military. We're also facing the reality that only 28 percent of American youth are even eligible for military service, based on test scores, fitness and moral character. Industry and academia are also competing for this same talent. Please help wherever and whenever you can to inform those influencers of these opportunities and share your personal, positive experiences, so that they may better understand our culture and make a decision to join this great service.

As always, I thank you for your service yesterday and today, and I invite your questions and comments about our Navy.

Best regards,

J. C. Harvey, Jr.

Vice Admiral, USN
Chief of Naval Personnel

Greetings shipmates,

I hope this correspondence finds you well. As you know, our Navy's readiness begins and ends with that of our Sailors and their families, and the Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education (MPTE) policies and programs we establish have a tremendous impact on the warfighting capabilities we realize on the waterfront.

Since my last letter to you we've continued to aggressively pursue programs that improve total force readiness and stabilize the force. Two initiatives we've implemented, that are directly linked to GWOT demands, and which I believe highlight our continued commitment to our people are the standing up of our Combat and Operational Stress Control Program /Warrior Transition Program (WTP) to ensure our Sailors and families get the quality care they deserve in dealing with the effects of operational stress as they return home from Iraq and Afghanistan. The second is in making our Individual Augmentee (IA) selection, training and deployment process more predictable and therefore less stressful on families. We've also established a single process owner, the Navy Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC) to ensure continuity of service. These types of initiatives are



In the last “Shift Colors” I mentioned the tardiness of the newsletter hitting the streets, specifically, the Summer/Fall 2006 edition, resulting in an unrealistic deadline date for submission of applications for the Secretary of the Navy’s Retiree Council (SECNAV RC). Those of you who are interested in participating in the SECNAV RC may submit your properly formatted applications through 30 September 2007. Please use the format requested. (See page 11 for details)

In this issue of your newsletter there is information about “Military Funeral Honors”. I can not stress enough the importance of having the verification of military service available to your survivors to ensure your last rites take place with the dignity and respect you deserve and are entitled to. We receive numerous calls or E-mails asking for the DD-214 or separation documents for deceased retirees (proof of service is a prerequisite for military funeral honors). Not having survivor affairs in order before the death occurs can be a traumatic experience for our survivors. The burden for him/her to

make frustrating calls and inquiries can be prevented if planned in advance. Maintain your DD-214, separation documents or retirement orders in a place accessible to your family members. Retirees should ensure their next of kin have this information available along with their will.

Want more control of your pay account? Get a Personal Identification Number (PIN) from Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and acquire many controls that can make managing

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DD-214, separation
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your pay account easier. **MyPay** as described on Page 5 allows you to update and make a variety of changes to your account without dealing with a customer service operator or being put on extended hold. Try it ...you’ll like it.

Last year the Senate drafted provisions to include Survivor Benefit Reform (makes Survivor Benefits Plan paid-up-date 1 October 2005), Full concurrent receipt for those deemed 100% “unemployable” (by reason of Individual Unemployability (IU)) and full concurrent receipt for all retirees. The Congress did not endorse any of these provisions and as we all know, none of the provisions made it into the final draft of the 2007 National Defense Authorization Act. This is an indication that we as retirees have to do a better job of informing the Congress. Our fraternal groups (e.g. Fleet Reserve Association, Military Officers Association of America, National Association for Uniformed Services, The Retired Enlisted Association) make it easy for us to send E-mails and letters to our members of Congress. Remember, representatives of military retiree groups are the ones that lobby congress for the retiree and active duty benefits and entitlements. If you cannot support them financially, at least visit their website to keep up to date on the issues that affect you and your benefits.

Remember our active duty and reserve service members and their families in your prayers.

In Your Service,

Dennis Mills

Head,
Navy Retired Activities Section
Navy Personnel Command

Social Security Administration Name Change Update 01

If you legally change your name because of marriage, divorce, court order or any other reason, tell Social Security so that you can get a corrected card. If you are working, also tell your employer. If you do not tell Social Security Administration (SSA) when your name changes, it may delay your tax refund and may prevent your wages from being posted correctly to your Social Security record. This would lower the amount of your future Social Security benefits. To change your name on your Social Security card, complete an application for a Social Security Card (Form SS-5) and provide SSA proof of your U.S. citizenship (if you have not previously established your citizenship with them) or immigration status. For legal name and/or identity change take (or mail) your completed application and documents to your local Social Security office. All documents must be either originals or copies certified by the issuing agency. SSA will not accept photocopies or notarized copies of documents!

Included in your application must be a recently issued document as proof of your legal name change. Documents Social Security may accept to prove a legal name change include:

- Marriage document;
- Divorce decree;
- Certificate of Naturalization showing a new name; or
- Court order for a name change.

If the document you provide as evidence of a legal name change does not give SSA enough information to identify you in their records or if you legally changed your name more than two years ago, you must provide SSA with additional documentation. In addition to showing a legal document proving your marriage, divorce or annulment, you must provide an identity document. That document must show your old name, as well as other identifying information or a recent photograph. SSA can accept an expired document as evidence of your old name. In addition to showing a legal document citing your new name, such as a court order, adoption decree or Certificate of Naturalization, you must provide two identity documents that show identifying information or a recent photograph. The two documents needed are one identity document in your old name (which can be expired); and one identity document in your new legal name, which must be current (unexpired).

If you are a U.S. citizen born outside the United States and SSA's records do not show you are a citizen, you will need to provide proof of your U.S. citizenship. If you are not a U.S. citizen, Social Security will ask to see your current immigration documents. Your new card will have the same number as your previous card, but will show your new name. SSA will mail your number and card as soon as they have all of your information and have verified your documents.

The Easy-to-Use System – myPay

*DFAS Corporate Communications
Carol A. Garcia*

In our busy and hectic lives isn't it great to know that some things have become easier to do? One of those many tasks that we have done for years (and some of us still do today) is receiving our payroll check in the mail and then driving to the bank to find ourselves standing in line with 20 other people waiting to deposit the check into a savings or checking account.

With the automated technology of today, it is almost unfathomable to think that we ever had to endure such lines or spend time doing this one simple task. *myPay*, the Web-based system from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, allows retired service members to view their pay account information online.

The technology allows retirees to access their retirement account

Continued on page 11.

"SAFE HARBOR" Program Supports Severely Injured

The cover page on the Winter/Spring 2007, edition of "Shift Colors" newsletter explained the Navy's initiative to care for our own, "Safe Harbor." To obtain additional information on this program call toll free (877) 746-8562, go online to: <http://www.npc.navy.mil/CommandSupport/SafeHarbor/> or contact your nearest Navy Retired Activities Office (RAO).

Survivors' Checklist

The information provided below is for family members when a surviving spouse of a military retiree dies. The information is intended for a guide and is not all-inclusive.

- Notify the Defense Finance and Accounting Service – Denver (DFAS-DE) if the surviving spouse was receiving an annuity from the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), the Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RCSBP), the Retired Serviceman's and Family Protection Plan (RSFPP) or "Forgotten Widows Annuity." Call 1-800-321-1080
- If the survivor was a Civil Service retiree or receiving an annuity from the Federal government, notify the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) at 724-794-8690, Option 3 or 1-888-767-6738.
- If the survivor was receiving Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) or other compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), please contact that agency at 1-800-827-1000.
- Notify private sector or retirement custodian if the deceased received funds from an employer - sponsored plan.
- Notify financial institutions where the deceased saved, invested or maintained funds.
- Notify insurance companies.
- Contact your nearest Retired Activities Office (RAO) or Retired Services Office (RSO) for assistance. The RAO phone numbers are routinely published in Shift Colors. Call your nearest military installation for the RSO locations.
- If the deceased was receiving Social Security benefits, notify the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213.
- If the deceased participated in the federal government's Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), contact the Federal Retirement Thrift Board at 877-968-3778.
- If the deceased was a member of a military fraternal group such as the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA), The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA), and The American Legion or DAV, please notify that organization.

Realizing that the above list is incomplete, we would appreciate any input from retirees or survivors on information that would be pertinent for the family members of deceased survivors. Mail suggestions to:

NAVY PERSONNEL COMMAND
RETIRED ACTIVITIES SECTION
(N-1352)
5720 INTEGRITY DRIVE
MILLINGTON TN, 38055-6200

Or Call (866) 827-5672

Tricare Retiree Dental Plan Reaches One Million Enrollees

Based on steady monthly gains, Delta Dental of California is now projecting that the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) will exceed one million covered Uniformed Services retirees and their family members of this year.

The milestone marks a continuing success story for the program, which is authorized by the Department of Defense, and distinguishes the TRDP Retiree Dental Program as the nation's largest, voluntary, all-enrollee paid dental benefits program.

"We owe much of this program's success to the support of the hundreds of Beneficiary Liaison and Military Association contacts out there who assist us every day by informing and educating our eligible audience about the benefit of having dental benefits," said Lowell Daun, DDS, senior vice president for Delta's Federal Services division. "Without their help, Uniformed Service retirees would have a harder time learning about the value of such a flexible and affordable dental benefits program."

The TRDP was first authorized by Congress in 1997, and continues today to offer one of the few low-cost, comprehensive dental benefit programs available to the nation's Uniformed Services retirees and their family members. The TRDP is a nationwide, combined fee-for-service/preferred provider program that offers enrollees access to any licensed dentist in all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Canada.

While enrollees may seek care from any licensed dentist in the service area, optimal benefits are available to those who choose a participating "Delta Dental Select" or "Delta Dental PPO" dentists in over 95,000 dentist locations nationwide.

The TRDP offers coverage for diagnostic and preventive services, basic restorative services, periodontics, endodontics, oral surgery, dental emergencies and a separate dental accident benefit are available immediately on the effective date of coverage. Additionally, the waiting period for a greater scope of benefits is only 12 months, after which the maximum coverage for crowns, bridges, full/partial dentures and orthodontics goes into effect.

The TRDP carries a \$50 annual deductible with a family cap of \$150, and an annual maximum amount of \$1,200 against which preventive and diagnostic services do not apply. In addition to the annual maximum, the TRDP also has a separate dental accident annual maximum of \$1,000 and a lifetime orthodontic maximum of \$1,200.

Eligible retirees and their family members can find answers to their questions about the program as well as enroll using Delta's dedicated TRDP web site at www.trdp.org or by calling the toll-free number at 1-866-567-1658.

CRSC cont.

the retiree can change from which program he/she receives payment.

For more information, please see:

The Department of Navy (DoN) CRSC website: <http://www.hq.navy.mil/corb/CRSCB/combatedrelated.htm>

If you want a call from the CRSC Board, just send an email with your phone number.

The email address for DoN CRSC is: DON_CRSC@navy.mil

The FAX number for DoN CRSC is: (202) 685-6882/6627

DFAS has a good website for CRDP and CRSC: <http://www.dfas.mil/retiredpay/concurrentretirementanddisabilitypay/crdpandcrsc.html>

Military .com also has a good website concerning CRDP and CRSC: <http://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/retired-pay/retired-concurrent-receipt-overview>



Need to change your address for Shift Colors?

Those receiving retirement pay or benefits through the Navy, **only** need to contact the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) at (800) 321-1080. DFAS will automatically update Shift Colors' database.

"Gray Area" retirees (a retired reservist not yet receiving retirement pay) or a surviving spouse of a retiree not receiving benefits, should contact Shift Colors to update address information.

Chiefs Taking Care of Chiefs

MCPON (SW) William H. Plackett, USN (Ret)

Our Navy is one of heritage and tradition. One of the strongest traditions is the sanctity of the CPO Mess. Bonds developed by shared hardships, common experiences and long separations from their families by the members of the mess, have, over the years, made the CPO mess a sanctuary for its members. What happens in the mess stays in the mess; when a shipmate needs help, we try to the best of our ability to provide it from within the mess. These strong traditions, combined with dedication and professionalism are the hallmark of chief petty officers and have resulted in the recognition, at all levels of the chain of command, the vital role that chief petty officers play in the day-to-day functioning of any Command.

In recognition of the contribution Navy chiefs make to our Navy, the USS Chief MCM-14 was commissioned in our honor on November 5, 1994 at the Naval Amphibious Base at Little Creek, Virginia. Chief petty officers throughout the Navy raised the funds to support the commissioning ceremonies. Their generosity resulted in a significant surplus of funds after commissioning expenses were paid. At the urging of the third Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Robert Walker and the seventh Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Duane Bushey, these funds became the first contribution to the Chief Petty Officer Scholarship Fund (CPOSF). The formal charter for the CPOSF was signed in January 1998 at the Senior Enlisted Academy in Newport, Rhode Island. This is



Command Master Chief (CMDM) Timothy Youell of Naval Air Station Sigonella makes ready for morning colors on a special day in honor of the 114th anniversary of chief petty officers. Since 1893, CPO's are honored for their service to the Navy on this day. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class G. Wade McKinnon

a not for profit fund dedicated to providing scholarships for higher education to dependent children or spouses of active duty, reserve or honorably retired chief, senior chief or master chief petty officers.

The mission of the CPOSF is to be a viable non-profit organization established solely for the purpose of generating funds to provide education opportunities for eligible family members of qualified chief petty officers. As stated by Thomas Crow, the fourth Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, "this program provides a great incentive and assists our CPO families in achieving increased opportunity and access to the colleges and universities that they simply could not afford without assistance." Since our inception, we have granted almost \$150,000 to over 200 applicants. We anticipate awarding another \$50,000 in 2007.

Our fund is made possible because of the generosity of active, reserve and retired chiefs who contribute to the fund either individually through allotments or the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), or as a group through their respective CPO Mess or Association. "Without donations, the scholarships wouldn't exist," said retired Chief Petty Officer David Hale, CPOSF Treasurer. In my mind, our success is directly related to our heritage of "chiefs taking care of chiefs" and I anticipate the CPOSF will continue to grow exponentially in the next few years.

Please join with us today in "chiefs taking care of chiefs." For more information about the CPOSF, visit our website at www.cposf.org or write to us at 1034 Creamer Rd., Norfolk, VA 23503.

EEOC Amends Age Bias Regulations to Conform with Supreme Court Ruling

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) issued revised regulations on age discrimination in the workplace in accordance with a 2004 Supreme Court decision, *General Dynamics Land Systems, Inc. v. Cline*. The updated regulations, are available at www.eeoc.gov.

The revised regulations clarify that the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) does not prohibit employers from favoring an older employee over a younger one when both are protected by the Act. The EEOC initially proposed these changes in 2006 and, after receiving public comments on its proposal, unanimously voted to approve the revisions. The public comments were largely supportive of the revisions, with both business and labor groups supporting the changes.

“With the graying of the American workforce, the ADEA has become more relevant than ever to both employers and employees,” said EEOC Chair Naomi C. Earp. “These revisions harmonize the Commission’s age discrimination regulations with the Supreme Court’s ruling in *Cline*, which clarified the law on this question. The decision, along with the revised regulations, will aid the EEOC in its enforcement efforts.”

The ADEA protects individuals who are 40 years of age or older

from employment discrimination based on age. The ADEA’s protections apply to both employees and job applicants. Under the ADEA, it is unlawful to discriminate against a person because of his/her age with respect to any term, condition, or privilege of employment, including hiring, firing, promotion, layoff, compensation, benefits, job assignments, and training. The ADEA applies to employers with 20 or more employees, including state and local governments. It also applies to employment agencies and labor organizations, as well as to the federal government.

The EEOC enforces federal laws prohibiting employment discrimination. Further information about the EEOC and the laws it enforces is available at <http://www.eeoc.gov/>.

Survey Deadline Extended for Overseas Retirees

The SECNAV Retiree Affairs Council has completed the first phase of a survey of Navy and Marine Corps retirees who live abroad.

Since there has been a high level of interest in the survey, additional survey responses will be accepted as part of Phase II. If you reside overseas (not Hawaii or Alaska) and have not participated in the survey but would like to, please e-mail geoffrey.a.patrissi@navy.mil and ask for a link to the OCONUS Retiree Survey.

The survey is voluntary and open to all Navy and Marine Corps out of the Continental United States (OCONUS) retirees who are interested in answering a short survey sponsored by the SECNAV Retiree Council. All results will be treated confidentially. The survey will let the Council know about issues that are important to OCONUS Navy and Marine Corps retirees and their families.

Correspondence/Mailing Addresses:

Annuitant Pay

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
U.S. Military Annuitant Pay
P.O. Box 7131
London, KY 40742-7131
Toll Free: 1-800-321-1080
Commercial: (216) 522-5955
FAX: 1-800-982-8459

Retirement Pay

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
U.S. Military Retirement Pay
P.O. Box 7130
London, KY 40742-7130
Toll Free : 1-800-321-1080
Commercial: (216) 522-5955
FAX: 1-800-469-6559

“Honoring Those Who Served”

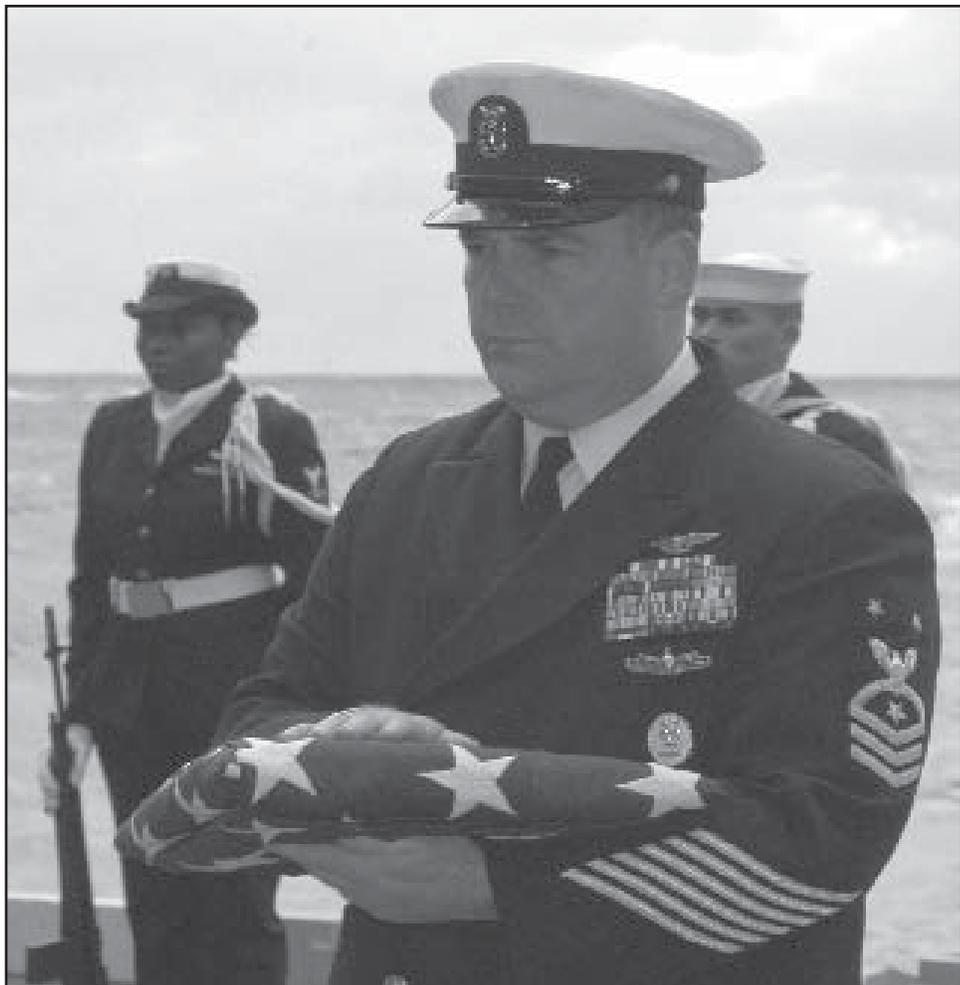
The Department of Defense (DOD) is responsible for providing military funeral honors. “Honoring Those Who Served” is the title of the DOD program for providing dignified military funeral honors to veterans who have defended our nation.



The Navy participated in 31,787 funeral details in 2006



Upon the family’s request, Public Law 106-65 requires that every eligible veteran receive a military funeral honors ceremony, to include folding and presenting the United States burial flag and the playing of Taps. The law defines a military funeral honors detail as consisting of two or more uniformed military persons, with at least one being a member of the veteran’s parent service of the Armed Forces. The DOD program calls for funeral home directors to request military funeral honors on behalf of the veterans’ family. However, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemetery Administration cemetery staff can also assist with arranging military funeral honors at VA national cemeteries. Veterans’ organizations may assist in providing military funeral honors. When military funeral honors at a national cemetery are desired, they



Command Master Chief Christopher Engles renders honors by receiving the ensign for the family of the deceased during a burial at sea aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Jan. 17, 2007. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Tony Foster.

are arranged prior to the committal service by the funeral home.

The DOD began the implementation plan for providing military funeral honors for eligible veterans as enacted in Section 578 of Public Law 106-65 of the National Defense Authorization Act in 2000.

Questions or comments concerning the DOD military funeral honors program may be sent to:

Department of Defense
Directorate for Public Inquiry and Analysis
Room 3A750, The Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1400

The military funeral honors web site is located at www.militaryfuneralhonors.osd.mil. To arrange military funeral honors, contact your local funeral home.

SECNAV's Retiree Council Seeks Members For 2008

If you would like the opportunity to serve the retired community, please consider applying for one of the vacancies on the Secretary of the Navy's Retiree Council (SECNAV RC). RC members are expected to be available to assist their area Retired Activities Officers (RAOs) throughout the year. They are also expected to work closely with regional or area commanders to gather input and concerns from retirees. Each spring they provide this input at the council meeting. The council maintains a broad cross-representation of retirees. Volunteer service in an RAO is an excellent credential. Retirees with specific background and experience in the fields of retirement services, medical, military compensation, and legal should especially consider applying. Applications must be received at the Retired Activities Section by September 30, 2007.

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. Brief summary of current civilian career.
- One paragraph identifying volunteer work and/or

Continued on page 13

The Easy-to-use System – myPay cont.

statements, 1099Rs, start and stop allotments, and start savings bonds online. Upon making any changes online, an email is sent directly to the user verifying and notifying any transactions that may have occurred on that user's account.

To use *myPay*, simply log on to the DFAS Web site (<https://mypay.dfas.mil>) and request a Personal Identification Number (PIN). A PIN number will be mailed to you within two weeks.

The easy-to-use service provides some important benefits, including:

- **Convenience** – the service provides a head start on preparing tax returns and allows users or family members to print and save copies of their 1099R statements. Confirmation of all account changes is sent directly to a user's email account, as are updates surrounding tax codes and filing requirements.
- **Control** – *myPay* provides immediate access to retirement account statements (RAS) and 1099Rs anywhere and anytime. It gives more control over finances to retired people who travel extensively or to those who require assistance from family and friends. It also allows users to update personal records with changes to mailing address, allotments, tax withholdings and direct deposits.
- **Security** – The system is completely secure. *myPay* uses a variety of security features to protect data in its transmission to user's computers. The secure technology provided to *myPay* customers meets or exceeds

security requirements in private industry worldwide. The features include secure systems such as 128 bit encryption, firewalls, Virtual Private Networks (VPN) and other measures. It is also important that customers do everything they can to protect data from being compromised or captured on their computers, especially when using personal computers at home. Maintaining the safety and security of *myPay* is a top priority for DFAS. We proactively implements new security features on a routine basis to protect our customers against identity theft and scams.

Costs of printing and mailing are lowered or eliminated when more retirees and service members use the *myPay* system. The savings from eliminating printing and mailing allows more money to be used in the Global War on Terrorism and other Defense Department priorities.

If you have any further questions about the *myPay* system log on to the Web site (<https://mypay.dfas.mil>) and view frequently asked questions or call the customer support number at DFAS 411 (1-888-332-7411).

Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) Branch has New E-mail Address

If you have questions about CRSC or about your pending application you may now contact the CRSC Branch by e-mail at don_crsc@navy.mil.

CRSC website address is:

<http://www.donhq.navy.mil/corb/CRSCB/combatrelated.htm>
<<http://www.donhq.navy.mil/corb/CRSCB/combatrelated.%20htm>>

SECNAV's 2007 Retiree Council Conference

The Secretary of the Navy's Retiree Council held its annual meeting April 16-20, 2007 in Washington DC at the Washington Navy Yard. The Council is composed of 24 retired Navy and Marine Corps members from across the United States and overseas who represent the entire Navy and Marine Corps retiree community. Two Co-Chairmen lead the Council: Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti, USMC (Ret) and MCPON Duane Bushey, USN (Ret).

During this year's meeting, council members met with Department of Defense senior leaders and received briefings on the Navy's Safe Harbor Program, the Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment, the OCONUS Retiree Survey, retiree health care, compensation, and other important matters facing current and future military retirees.

During the 2007 meeting, council members determined that retiree volunteer support to severely injured Sailors and Marines is the number one issue that needs to be addressed by the Navy and Marine Corps. The Council also recommended that the Department consider establishing a Military Retiree Appreciation Day.

The Council reviewed open elements of last year's requests and invited the Secretary to consider issues related to Military Treatment Facility (MTF) medical manning and its potential impact on retirees and their families as well as numerous TRICARE issues, pharmaceutical costs and concerns. Other issues forwarded by the council for consideration by the Navy and Marine Corps included OCONUS retiree support, enhanced electronic access to benefit documents and newsletters, improved transitional

employment educational credit for completed military training, Space-A travel for surviving spouses and minor children as well as other benefits for surviving spouses and retiring members.

During the meeting, council members made numerous improvements to the retiree council website. They made the site more user friendly and enhanced the abilities of web managers to post information throughout the year that will be valuable to retirees and their families.

At the end of the weeklong conference, the council co-chairs presented their report on the 2007 council meeting containing primary and secondary recommendations on retiree matters to the Secretary of the Navy, Dr. Donald C. Winter, at a meeting in the Pentagon.



2007 SECNAV RETIREE COUNCIL

From Left to Right:
Forward Front: Dr. Lynda C. Davis, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy, The Honorable Donald C. Winter, Secretary of the Navy

1st Row: William Crawford, Annie Fowler, Jodge Sotelo, Frank Wilimzig, Lynell Poole, Barbara Krzewinski, co-chair Frank Libutti, co-chair Duane Bushey, Nancy Swanson, Lawrence Waggoner, Fernando Atienza, Jose Llacuna, Gene LaRue and MACS Terrie Reese

2nd Row: Peter Dotto, James Kion, Michael McHugh, Kathleen Morrison, Robert Bird, Robert Flaughner, William Walters, Larry Woods, Gary Poplin, and Darryl Wahler.

membership in civic and other organizations.

- Education (Associate Degree, Bachelors Degree, Masters Degree, PHD and field of study as appropriate).
- Include a brief statement on how you can contribute to the RC.
- **A recent snapshot photo.** Place the picture on the one page application at the top right hand corner (head and shoulder shot). Photo should be no larger than 2 ½ inches by 3 inches.

All submissions will be carefully reviewed and nominations will be selected based upon a number of factors, including the applicant's subject matter expertise in a particular area, experience with issues affecting retirees, previous or continuing service to the retired community, retiree status (sometimes there are specific slots open for reserve retirees, for example), geographic location, etc.

Those nominees who are selected for appointment to the RC will be notified by mail from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), which is the office responsible

for coordination of the RC. The term of office for RC members is normally three years. RC members are brought back on special active duty orders for the duration of the weeklong annual Spring meeting, which is held in Washington, DC.

Send applications to:
Navy Personnel Command
Retired Activities Section (N-1352)
5720 Integrity Drive
Millington, TN 38055-6200
1-866-827-5672

NOTE: If you applied for nomination to the 2007 Retiree Council, please update your application and re-submit. **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS 30 SEPTEMBER 2007**



2007 SECNAV Retiree Council Member Contact Information

Co-Chairs:

Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti, USMC (Ret)
flibutti@digitalfusion.com

MCPON Duane R. Bushey, USN (Ret)
Home: dbushey@verizon.net
Work: dbushey@cdacms.ort

Marine Members:

First Sergeant William Crawford, USMC (Ret)
wcrawford86@bellsouth.net

Col Peter A. Dotto, USMC (Ret)
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Work: peter.dotto.ctr@usmc.mil

Col Ken Jordan, USMC (Ret)

First Sergeant Gene LaRue Jr., USMC (Ret)
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Work: gene.larue@oside.k12.ca.us

First Sergeant Larry Woods, USMC (Ret)

LtCol Larry Waggoner, USMC (Ret)
Home: lwaggoner@libero.it
Work: lwaggoner@afsouth.nato.int

Navy Members:

CAPT Fernando C. Atienza, MC USNR (Ret)

CAPT Robert R. Bird, SC USN (Ret)
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Alt: RLABIRD@aol.com

LT Robert Harvey Flaughner USN (Ret)
Home: rflaughner@satx.rr.com
Work: robert.flaughner@navy.mil
Alt: rflaughner2001@yahoo.com

CAPT Michael L. McHugh, USN (Ret)
mc68hugh@aol.com

CAPT Kathleen D. Morrison, MSC USN (Ret)
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ABEC Lynell Poole, USN, (Ret)
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CTRCS Gary W. Poplin, USNR (Ret)
gpoplinsnrc@MSN.com

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Alt: alrudy@sbcglobal.net

CAPT Nancy A. Swanson, USN (Ret)
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AMS1 (AW) Jorge Sotelo USN (Ret)
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HMCS (FMF) Darryl E. Wahler, USNR (Ret)
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DK1 Bill Walters, USN (Ret)
william.walters@emh2.mccooy.army.mil

UTCS Frank E. Wilimzig, USN (Ret)
Home: framar@cox.net
Work: frank.wilimzig@va.gov

Retired Activities Office Phone Listing

Arizona Phoenix, AZ (N&MCRESREDCEN) (602) 353-3033 0830-1500(Mon-Fri) Tucson, AZ (N&MCRESCECEN) (520) 228-6277/89 0930-1500(Tue-Fri)	Hawaii Pearl Harbor, HI (NAVSTA) (808) 473-4222 Ext 231 0800-1500 (Mon-Fri)	Oregon White City, OR VA Domiciliary (541) 826-2111 ext. 3886 0900-1200 (Tue-Thurs) Eugene, OR (NAVOPSUPPCEN) (541) 686-9266 1000-1500 (Mon-Fri) Portland, OR (NAVOPSUPPCEN) (503) 285-4566/9587 Ext 532 0900-1300 (Tue-Thur)	Washington Bremerton, WA (NavSta Bremerton) (360) 476-5116 1-866-572-4341 0900-1330 (Mon-Fri) Everett, WA (NAVSTA) (425) 304-3775 1-888-463-6697 opt5 then opt 2 ask for RAO 1000-1300 (Mon-Fri) Whidbey Island, WA (NAS) (360) 257-8054/55 0900-1500 (Mon-Fri)
California China Lake, CA (NAVAIRWPASTA) (760) 939-0978 0900-1100 1300-1500(Mon-Fri) Lemoore, CA (NAS) (559) 998-4042 0800-1630 (Mon-Fri) Monterey, CA (NAVSUPPACT) (831) 656-3060 0800-1500(Wed) Point Mugu, CA (805) 982-1023 0800-1600 (Mon-Fri) San Diego, CA (CORONADO - NAS) (619) 437-2780 0900-1200 (Mon-Fri) San Diego, CA (NAVSTA) (619) 556-8987 0800-1600 (Mon-Fri) Seal Beach, CA (NWS) (562) 626-7152 0900-1500 (Mon-Fri) Sunnyvale, CA (Onizuka Air Station-formerly Moffett Field) (650) 603-8047 0930-1530 (Mon-Fri)	Illinois Great Lakes, IL (NTC) (847) 688-3603 Ext 118 0900-1500 (Mon-Fri) Louisiana New Orleans, LA (NAVSUPPACT) (504) 678-2134 0900-1200 (Mon-Fri)	Pennsylvania Willow Grove, PA (NAS JRB) (215) 443-6033 1-800-773-1569 1000-1500 (Mon-Fri)	Wisconsin Milwaukee, WI (NAVOPSUPPCEN) (414) 744-9766 0900-1500(Mon-Fri)
Connecticut Groton, CT (SUBASE) (860) 694-3284 0900-1500 (Mon-Fri)	Maryland Annapolis, MD (USNA) (410) 293-2641 0900-1200 (Wed) Bethesda, MD (NNMC) (301) 295-4120 0930-1530 (Mon-Fri)	Rhode Island Newport, RI (NAVSTAMPT) (401) 841-4089 0900-1200 (Mon-Fri)	Overseas Locations
Delaware Wilmington, DE (N&MCRESCECEN) (302) 998-5194 0800-1630(Mon-Fri)	Massachusetts Quincy, MA (NAVOPSUPPCTR) (617) 753-4636/26 1200-1600 (Wed/Fri)	S. Carolina Charleston, SC (NAVWPNSTA) (843) 764-7480 0800-1630 (Mon-Fri) Greenville, SC (NAVOPSUPPCEN) (864) 277-9775 opt 4 1-866-524-6585 Opt 4 0900-1100 1300-1500 (Mon-Fri)	Guam NAVACTS (671)339-7635/333-2056/7/8
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) (850) 623-7177 1000-1300(Wed/Thu) Orlando, FL (DFAS BLDG) (407) 646-4204/4262 1000-1400 (Mon-Fri) Pensacola, FL (NAS) (850) 452-5990 Ext 3111 0900-1300 (Mon-Thu)	Maine Brunswick, ME (NAS) (207) 921-2609 0900-1200 (Mon-Fri)	Tennessee Millington, TN (NAVSUPPACT) (901) 874-5195 1000-1400 (Mon/Wed)	Italy La Maddalena, IT (NAVSUPPACT) 011-390-789-73-6161 DSN: (314) 623-8205 24HRS (Mon-Sun) Naples, IT (NAVSUPPACT) 011-39-81-568-4857 DSN: (314) 625-4393 0730-1600 (Mon-Fri)
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Updated 31 Jan 07

Ready Reference Contact Information

Air Force Retiree Services Branch
(800) 531-7502
(210) 565-4663
www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afretire

Arlington National Cemetery
(703) 607-8000
www.arlingtoncemetery.org

Armed Forces Retirement Home
Washington DC: (800) 422-9988
Gulfport, MS: (228) 604-2205
www.afrh.com

Army Retired Affairs
(703)325-9158
www.armyg1.army.mil/retire

Burial at Sea Information (option 4)
(888) 647-6676
<http://mmso.med.navy.mil>

DEERS (press 3)
(800)-538-9552
Fax: (831) 655-8317
www.tricare.osd.mil/deers

DFAS Retired/Annuitant
(800)-321-1080
Outside U.S.: (216) 522-5955
General Questions: (888) 332-7411
www.dod.mil/dfas

DFAS Casualty Assistance Branch
(800) 269-5170
(For Reporting a Retiree's death, press 2)

Fleet Reserve Assoc
(703) 683-1400
www.fra.org

I.D. Cards Benefits and Eligibility
(866) 827-5672
www.npc.navy.mil/commandsupport/fieldsupport (Click benefits & eligibility)

Internal Revenue Service
(800) 829-1040
(309) 229-7111
www.irs.gov

Marine Corps Retired Affairs
(800) 336-4649
(703) 784-9310
www.usmc.mil
Click on Career, then retired marine)

Medicare
(800) 633-4227
TTY: (877) 486-2048
www.medicare.gov

Military Officers Assoc. of America
(800) 234-6622
www.moaa.org

National Burial Services
(800) 697-6940

National Personnel Records Center
(314) 801-0800
Fax: (314) 801-9195
www.archives.gov

Navy Reserve Personnel Center
(866) 250-4778
(901) 874-5632
<https://nrpc.navy.mil>

Navy Retired Activities Office
(866) U-ASK-NPC, (866) 827-5672
MILL RetiredActivities@navy.mil
<http://www.npc.navy.mil/CommanSupport/RetiredActivities>

Navy Uniform Shop
(800) 368-4088
www.navy-nex.com/uniform

Navy Worldwide Locator
(901) 874-3388
www.npc.navy.mil/CommandSupport/NavyWorldWideLocator
Reserve Component SBP
(866) 250-4778

Retiree Dental -- Delta Dental
(866) 838-8737
www.trdp.org

Servicemembers' Group Insurance (SGLI)
(800) 419-1473
(973) 548-5699
www.insurance.va.gov

Naval Historical Center
(202) 433-2210
www.history.navy.mil

Social Security Administration
(800) 772-1213
www.ssa.gov

TRICARE
For LIFE: (866) 773-0404
Prime Remote: (888) 363-2273
Overseas: (888) 777-8343
Mail Order Pharmacy: (888) 363-8667
www.tricare.osd.mil

VA Burial Benefits
(800) 827-1000
www.cem.va.gov

VA Regional Office (Benefits and Assistance)
(800) 827-1000
TDD: (800) 829-4833
www.va.gov



★
Don't let your questions go unanswered. If you're not sure who to contact or where to go,

Call 1-866-U-ASK-NPC
(1-866-827-5672)

Let the Navy Personnel Comand Customer Service Center help you!

Corrections

Contact Blue Angel Recreation Park at 850-453-9435(not (850)572-3432).
The last issue of Shift Colors read Volume #53, but should have read #52.

Disclaimer: Some of the information compiled for Shift Colors comes from a variety of sources to include experts in their respective fields. The content was current at the time of publication. We appreciate your patience and continued readership. - Editor, Shift Colors

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