



California Council of Chapters of MOAA (CALMOAA)

June 2022 issue

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Notes from the President’s Desk

I am saddened to report that CALMOAA 1st VP Neal Schneider is at home on hospice. When COVID started he was a little disappointed because he had wanted to be a part of Honor Flight. I am happy in that he was able to participate in Honor Flight last May 2022. His local news Fox26 News did a piece on Honor Flight Spotlight on him this last May. <https://kmpb.com/news/local/honor-flight-spotlight-terminal-cancer-patient-gets-out-of-hospital-just-in-time-for-trip>. I have named Patty Wernet as the acting 1st VP per **Section 6 - Disability and Vacancy** (see excerpt of bylaws below).

There has been a lot going on this month. **MOAA Annual Meeting and LOE Recognition will be held in Kansas City on October 24 – 28, 2022.** With this in mind I have asked Mike Kwan to host this year’s CALMOAA Annual in his area. Tentatively our annual meeting will be **November 3, 2022** close to the Seabee Base in Port Hueneme, CA. He is currently researching and identifying possible lodging in the area. At this time, I am looking at 1.5 day meeting. As we get closure, we will keep you up to date as he works out the kinks. In the meantime, I also asked him to see if he could have Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin who represents their district, and she is Chair of the Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation. If she's not available, we will try to get Congresswoman Julia Brownley. If this does not work, they are thinking of asking the NBVC skipper to address us.

It is that time again where we need our members to run for office to be the next CALMOAA and filling a board position if you are interested. Remember everyone member (service members and surviving spouses) is eligible to run for office. Description of CALMOAA Officers can be found under Article VIII (please see link <https://www.californiamoaa.com/calmoaa-bylaws/> and click to page 10 of 18). I will establish a nominating chair soon.

Follow up on AB1623 I have created a small committee to review what we did right and what we could have done on AB1623 **Personal income taxes: exclusion: uniformed services retirement pay: survivor benefit plan payments. One of the plus items that has come out of this effort is your engagement with your state Assemblymembers and your**

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Senators. From this point on everyone needs to keep your relationship with them from this point on. Both as individuals and as an organization.

In addition to the above either I and/or Jeff will be sending out an email inviting the Board and your legislative representatives to start planning on what CALMOAA should work on for 2023. This includes going back to **legislation to ask for tax exemption of our surviving spouses.** The result of this meeting will set the platform for CALMOAA 2023 – 2024 board. In the meantime, keep up your communications lines open with your State Senator, Assemblymember, Senator, and Congressmen/Congresswomen.

There will be a ballot measure on the November ballot which is very bad for California and will not deliver on its promise to end homelessness and is opposed by over 60 Native American Tribes. CALMOAA is in full support of Protecting Tribal Sovereignty along with the VFW, AMVETS, Marine Corps Veterans Association, the Scottish-American Military Society and the Association of the U.S. Army, Northern and Southern Chapters in opposing this measure

It is official the Camp Pendleton Chapter MOAA (CA23) is closing its doors. Dan has done a good job trying to keep his chapter engaged. It is with sad heart that they had to make the difficult decision to close the Camp Pendleton chapter here in North San Diego County. Despite numerous efforts to increase both interest and participation, they have not been able to keep the chapter alive. They have given it their best effort. We are hoping their members will join other San Diego Chapters in the area.

Updating Catchment Areas: I have received little response to update your chapter catchment areas. If I have heard from you, I will assume you are satisfied with your current catchment areas and that you do not want it updated/changed.

As much as we have seen the development of Naval Air it is hard to believe it Naval Aircraft Carriers have only been part of the Navy for 100 years. This year we celebrated the centennial of US Navy Aircraft Carriers <https://www.navy.mil/Resources/Blogs/Detail/Article/2906154/centennial-of-us-navy-aircraft-carriers/>. In part you can see part of this by viewing “Meet the Aviators and the Planes They Flew | Legacy Week 2022 Memorial Day Weekend” please click on this link to meet the aviators <https://youtu.be/pbvxnspQGZ4> and “A Look Inside the USS Midway | USS Midway Museum” <https://youtu.be/LsSqZCCBi8Q>

May and June were graduation of our next generation of commissioned officers and JROTC classes. I had the honor of presenting MOAA Medals to three JROTC High Schools this year. The students are very motivated and excited about the future as are our newly commissioned officers. Let us wish them the best.

On a personal note, I have to take a minute to share our excitement and pride for our son! Sean and his family together made an almost impossible challenge HAPPEN! Along with the village, Teri and I are so happy to announce our son received his PhD from University of San Diego!

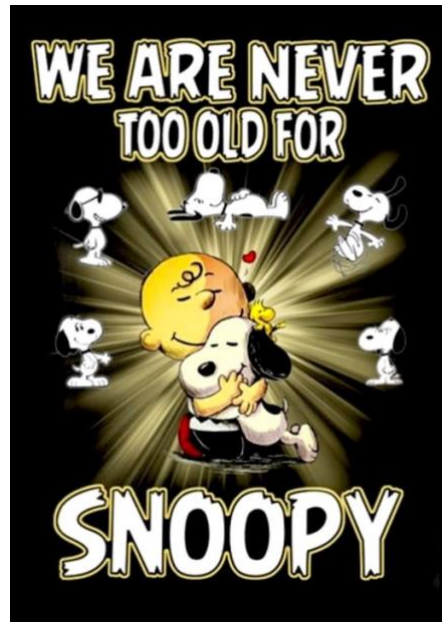
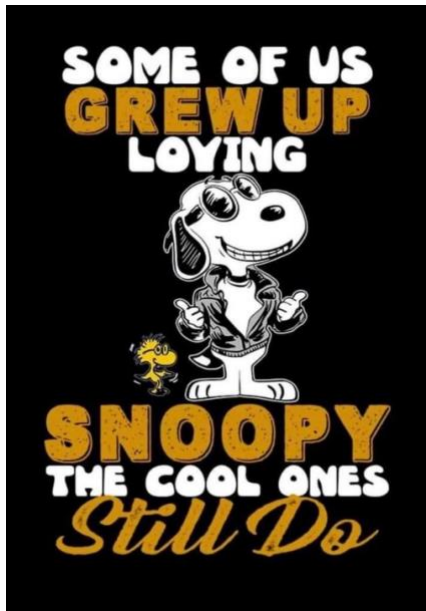
I had the pleasure of reviewing “The Sylmar Earthquake Documentary” is "live" at <http://www.shakenthemovie.com>. This film is about what happened on February 9, 1971 in Sylmar California. Where a 6.5 quake became the most important seismic event in US History.





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Respectfully,

E Fred Green, Jr.
President CALMOAA

Surviving Spouse

Please see Kathy’s Surviving Spouse Report in separate attachment.

Please join “[MOAA Surviving Spouses and Friends \(Private Group\) – Facebook](#).” My wife and I are members and it have been very enlightening. Some members of my chapter have also stated how helpful it is even if you are not a surviving spouse and “[DIC Surviving Spouses/DIC Increase Advocacy](#)”.

MOAA has a lot of information for Surviving Spouses of on their website <https://www.moaa.org/content/topic-and-landing-pages/i-am-a-surviving-spouse/> . They have brochures about how to be prepared in the case of a death. Look at the VA website www.va.gov and look under the presumptive conditions <https://benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/serviceconnected/presumption.pdf> and <https://www.va.gov/search/?query=presumptive%20conditions&t=false> . Review your accounts (checking, credit cards, utilities, etc. to ensure that if something happened to one it does not lock out the surviving spouse. Review your Trust and/or Will to ensure it has what you and spouse wants. Protect your loved ones!!

Significant dates and MOAA deadlines

CALMOAA Quarterly Meetings

3rd Quarter CALMOAA All Hands Zoom meeting – Kathy Prout will be chairing. This ZOOM Meeting will be held Saturday July 23 from 10 AM – 12 PM. Please keep an eye out for the agenda and link to the meeting.

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4th Quarter CALMOAA Annual Meeting/All Hands – tentatively November 3 – 4, 2022 will be chairing. Keep an eye out for the announcement.

June 29 – MOAA Legislative Day – [Register now](#)

(<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/3816560/5A03C49803FDCC6713637A5E4A43BEE6>) and we will send you a link to the recording. Capt. Paul Frost, USN (Ret), AFC® will be providing a comprehensive review of recent legislation and MOAA's priorities for the upcoming National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

Topics include:

- Where our federal dollars are spent
- Military experience of our legislators
- Recent legislative wins and losses
- MOAA's 2022/2023 legislative priorities, including key NDAA issues
- SBP-DIC offset elimination phase-in
- MOAA's COLA Watch

MOAA 2022 Roundtable Schedule

June 30 – Recruiting

July 28 – Event Planning

August 25 – Improving Chapter Health

September 29 – Branding

October 27 – Transition Services

November 17 – Retention

December 29 – End of Year Review and Discussion

Looking for a recording from a past webinar, roundtable, or another event? Visit our [Council and Chapter Webinars and Video Archive](#) page.

Elder Abuse Awareness. We all need to [Recognizing the Signs of Elder Abuse](#) the County of San Diego Aging & Independence Services is asking San Diegans to be on the lookout for signs of elder abuse. You can help by reporting suspected elder abuse or concerns about self-neglect. Make an anonymous report by calling the County's Adult Protective Services (APS) at (800) 339-4661. Local elder abuse report numbers have increased in recent years as the large percentage of Baby Boomers who live in the region reach their retirement years. Almost 23 percent of the County's population is projected to be over age 65 by the year 2050.

Social Security sent out a reminder about "World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD)" and some reminders we all need to be aware of about the factors surrounding abuse and neglect of older persons. The pandemic highlighted the disproportionate impact of tragedy on underserved communities, including seniors, who faced high rates of elder abuse, fraud, and nursing homes deaths. https://blog.ssa.gov/world-elder-abuse-awareness-day-advancing-equity/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

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CALMOAA TOPS - NAVNET

You can find career opportunities at the NAVNET website www.navnetresources.com which will be added to the CALMOAA website. If anyone has and/or know of any openings for NAVNET they can send them to Tom Hammons at tom@navnetresources.com

Corporate Gray Military to Civilian Career Transition is holding a Virtual Job fair on 24 June 2022 please click on this link for more information <https://www.corporategray.com/jobfairs/450>

CALVET, Veteran Services: vetservices@calvet.ca.gov

CALVET will continue to assist veterans in their transition to the next stage in their lives through education and training opportunities. The Veterans Services Division is hosting a series of webinars on opportunities offered through federal and state programs such as Post-9/11 GI Bill, Veterans Readiness & Employment, and CalVet Tuition Fee Waiver. Check out the CalTAP webpage for many training opportunities, previously recorded webinars, and additional information highlighting how CalVet can assist in transition.

CALMOAA is here to help to the best of its ability. Please reach out whenever. Please visit CALMOAA website www.Californiamoaa.com it has a wealth of info about VA and TRICARE benefits, job opportunities and much more.

State and National Legislation

[California Senate Bills \(Veteran\) for 2021 – 2022](#)

[California Assembly Bills \(Veteran\) for 2021 – 2022](#)

National Legislation and MOAA Advocacy in Action

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

“MOAA National issues” (website):

<http://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/Top-Issues/Top-Issues.aspx>)

<https://takeaction.moaa.org/moaa/?0>

The “Responsible Education Mitigating Options and Technical Extensions Act” or the “REMOTE Act” Signed Into Law: <https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/remotect.asp> .

VA takes action to become federal model for inclusion, diversity, equity, and access for Veterans and employees:

<https://www.va.gov/OPA/PRESSREL/pressrelease.cfm?id=5752> .

House Votes to Expand GI Bill Eligibility for National Guard, Reserves: <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/01/12/house-votes-expand-gi-bill-eligibility-national-guard-reserves.html>

PASSPORT RENEWAL

Ombudsman Registry

Active-duty, reserve and retired service members, and Defense Department civilians and contractors and their families are now able to renew their U.S. Passports online, according to the State Department. The online portal became available Dec. 23, and will now enable customers to renew their passports from the convenience of their homes 24/7 without having to go to a Post Office to mail their application and supporting documents.

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Please share with your families and others who may be eligible for these services. Please see below for more information and instruction on the renewal process.

<https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/2880945/dod-personnel-families-can-renew-passports-online>

Eligibility for Veterans Pension/ Veterans Affairs

The Veteran Pension program provides monthly payments to wartime Veterans who meet certain age or disability requirements, and who have income and net worth with certain limits. Find out if you're eligible for this benefit see:

<https://www.va.gov/pension/eligibility/> .

MOAA's [Community Outreach Sponsorship](#) is still available. (this is similar to the USAA program). You can apply for up to \$300 per chapter or \$800 per council to support community service programs and recruiting/branding events. Get details [at this link](#). This program is similar to the USAA program. In addition to the Community Outreach Sponsorship To review the grant for our Chapters Department, along with the Development's Department, use this link:<https://www.moaa.org/content/chapters-and-councils/chapters-and-councils/council-and-chapter-community-involvement/>

For Crisis Relief Grant, please access this link:<https://www.moaa.org/relief-verification>

Veterans Affairs

[Disabled License Plate/Registration Waiver \(DV Plate\)](#)

Veterans who are interested in obtaining a disabled plate must provide the following documents:

- VSD-001
- Copy of DD-214 that shows Social Security Number on it.
- Copy of your Driver's license
- Copy of your VA Decision letter (Most recent letter that states you are 100% service-connected disabled). This letter is *not* obtainable from Ebenefits. This letter includes all your disabilities (combined rating) in detail in relationship to mobility issues. This letter is issued to you by the VA. **Mobility issues must be stated.**
- **The breakdown letter will also need to have the Department Of Veterans Affairs Header along with your name and information to identify you.**

Please Note: The VSD-001 will be processed with the name that appears on the DD-214. The DMV can assist you further if you have any questions regarding *name changes* since separating from service.

June is PTSD month learn more at www.ptsd.va.gov. [Posttraumatic stress disorder \(PTSD\)](#) can occur after exposure to extreme stress, such as combat, an assault, or a disaster. If you're living with PTSD caused by military service, you may be entitled to VA disability benefits and compensation. [Find out if you qualify and how to apply online.](#)

Department of Veterans Affairs, office of Inspector General

Contract Medical Exam Program Limitations Put Veterans at Risk for Inaccurate Claims Decisions

Summary: Given the importance of medical exams to disability claims and the high cost of VA's contracts with exam vendors, the VA Office of Inspector General (OIG) set out to determine whether the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) oversaw contract medical disability exams to ensure they met quality standards and contractual requirements, established procedures for correcting errors, and gave feedback to vendors to improve exam quality.

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VBA’s governance of and accountability for the exam program needs to improve. The identified deficiencies appear to have persisted, at least in part, because of limitations with VBA’s management and oversight of the program at the time of the review. The OIG found VBA’s program was deficient because it hindered the ability to hold vendors accountable for correcting errors and improving exam accuracy. VBA should improve the program to help ensure vendors produce accurate exams to support correct decisions for veterans’ claims.

Contract exams are a significant investment, and VA has spent nearly \$6.8 billion since fiscal year 2017. Some of the exams produced by vendors have not met contractual accuracy requirements. As a result, claims processors may have used inaccurate or insufficient medical evidence to decide veterans’ claims. Therefore, it is vital for VBA to improve the governance and accountability of the program.

The OIG made four recommendations to the acting under secretary for benefits, including ensuring vendors can be held contractually accountable for unsatisfactory performance and establishing procedures for vendors to correct errors. The OIG also recommended requiring the Medical Disability Examination Office to communicate vendor exam errors to the Office of Field Operations and the regional offices and demonstrate progress in correcting them, and analyze all available data to identify systemic errors and provide systemic exam issues and error trends to vendors. (see <https://www.va.gov/oig/publications/report-summary.asp?id=5152> to download the full report).

MOAA Store

The MOAA Store is officially back up and running! There are variety of items that can be found in the store at <https://moaa.estore.shop/>. From apparel to headwear and much more, there are many items to show your MOAA pride!

Surviving Spouse Corner: 4 Resources for Older Adults

By: Renée Brunelle

The community of military spouses, encompassing all past and present, is a resilient group of individuals. The ability to change plans in a moment’s notice is a skill acquired over years of experience. The other amazing characteristic of military spouses is that we support each other and share tools, benefits, and resources no matter how long we have known each other.

Here are four such resources to consider:

VA Aid and Attendance: Also known as housebound allowance, VA Aid and Attendance might be able to provide a monthly financial benefit to assist with personal care services. Financial and physical considerations need to be investigated. Local veteran services organizations are a great place to get neutral information and support.

Geriatric Care Managers: Hiring these professionals can be an unmatched option of support for seniors who do not have family members close. They are social workers for hire who can be on a retained contract or situational contract in case of emergency needs. Their experience can help you navigate insurance coverage, emergency services, or placement recommendations if you are looking into senior living locations.





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Board-Certified Elder Law Attorney: Often attorneys will list that they offer estate and/or elder law specialties. This is an important area in that “what you don’t know will hurt you.” A board-certified elder law attorney has a higher level of training and expertise. Learn more through the National Elder Law Foundation.

Senior Real Estate Specialist (SRES): This designation for Realtors means that they have done advanced education for working with home buyers over the age of 50. Often, they have a network of additional businesses and services that will assist in making the real estate transaction as smooth as possible. Learn more through the SRES Council.

From ‘Pension Poaching’ to Elder Fraud, No One Is Immune to Financial Scams

By: Kevin Lilley

News of scam artists targeting an older veteran unfortunately has become commonplace, with the Federal Trade Commission reporting more than \$66 million in losses from military retirees and veterans reported to the agency in 2020 alone. But a recent public information campaign makes it clear these scammers can go after anyone, including a World War II Navy veteran who spent part of his post-service professional career at the helm of the FBI:

William Webster, who also ran the CIA and is now a 98-year-old retired judge, and his wife were targeted in a lottery scam in 2014, according to an FBI.gov report. When the couple refused to pay the \$50,000 requested by an unknown caller, the scammers threatened violence. He called his old department; the caller’s now in prison. “If it can happen to me, it can happen to you,” Webster said in the video, released in early May by the FBI.

Along with the elder fraud threats targeted by the FBI campaign, military retirees and veterans face scams specific to their service. The VA last month reported an uptick in “pension poaching,” where an individual or organization misrepresents their ability to help a veteran secure VA benefit, or attempts to convince a veteran to transfer their funds or share personal information to secure greater or faster VA compensation

While no two scams are identical, be wary of anyone making the following requests or proposals regarding your veterans benefits:

- Claims of “guaranteed” future VA benefits, or a request to provide credit card information before assisting with a VA claim. Accredited VA attorneys and claims agents cannot charge a fee until after a claim decision.
- Requests for your eBenefits, VA.gov, or other VA login credentials.
- Claims to represent the VA itself or to hold VA accreditation (Check any organization or claims agent against VA’s online accreditation database), especially those accompanied by legal threats for noncompliance. Not sure how to proceed, or if you are actually facing a compliance issue? Hang up and call the VA direct at (800) 827-1000.
- Suggestions about moving money into or out of specific accounts to allow for benefits eligibility. Remember: If you receive VA benefits after misrepresenting your finances – even at the direction of a third party – you may be liable to repay the benefits to the government.

Report suspected VA-related scams by calling the VA Office of Inspector General at (800) 488-8244. Report other scams at <https://reportfraud.ftc.gov> or via your local FBI field office.

This Bill Would Support the Families of Deceased, Defrauded Veterans

By: Kevin Lilley

A bipartisan bill introduced in the Senate on April 5 would ensure families of defrauded veterans receive the benefits owed if the veteran passes away before their case with the VA is resolved.

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The Restoring Benefits to Defrauded Veterans Act (S. 3994), sponsored by Sens. Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) and Tommy Tuberville (R-Ala.) would add language to existing law that would require the VA secretary to pay out these fraud claims to a veteran’s estate, a fiduciary who had served the veteran, or “the next inheritor.” The House version of the legislation (H.R. 5966) was introduced Nov. 21 by Reps. David Trone (D-Md.) and Tom Emmer (R-Minn.). The claims stem from misuse of benefits by a veteran’s fiduciary where the secretary is found to have committed “negligent failure” to “investigate and monitor a fiduciary,” according to current law. There were about 12,000 allegations of such fraud from Jan. 1, 2018, to Sept. 30, 2019, according to a VA Office of Inspector General (OIG) report.

While OIG found no “systemic issues” with the VA Fiduciary Program, it did find “instances of significant wait times,” including one veteran owed more than \$20,000 in misused funds waiting more than 19 months after the ruling to receive his money.

MOAA supports the measure along with The American Legion, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Wounded Warrior Project. “Unfortunately, thousands of veterans have been victims of fraud and have dealt with a long, drawn out process to ensure they and their families receive their earned payments,” Manchin said in a press release announcing the Senate legislation, adding that the bill would “make a simple fix to help these defrauded veterans and their families receive the support they need and deserve.”

Tuberville said Americans would “like to believe we live in a country where no one would take advantage of our veterans, but sadly it does happen. What’s worse is if the money that was lost to fraud is never returned. This bill attempts to help right that wrong”



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Ready Reference Contact Information

Air Force Retiree Services: (800) 531-7502;
www.retirees.af.mil

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

Armed Forces Retirement Home: (800) 422-9988;
www.afrh.gov

Army & Air Force Exchange Service: (214) 312-2011;
www.aafes.com

Army Retired Services: (703) 571-7232;
<https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement>

Burial

Burial at Sea Information: (866) 787-0081

- Pre-Need Burial Benefit before you call checklist – [Funeral Director's Before You Call Checklist \(va.gov\)](http://www.va.gov)
- Burial Benefits: http://www.cem.va.gov/burial_benefits/
- Burial Allowance: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/burials/Burial.pdf>
- Headstone/Marker/Medallion: <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/hmm/>
- Burial Flag: http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/burial_benefits/burial_flags.asp

Combat Related Special Compensation:
www.donhq.navy.mil/corb/crscb/crscmainpage.htm

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

Defense Commissary Agency: 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

Gulf War homepage: www.gulflink.osd.mil

I.D. Cards Benefits and Eligibility: (866) 827-5672;
<http://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Support-Services/Pay-Pers-Support/ID-Cards/>

Internal Revenue Service: (800) 829-1040; www.irs.gov

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

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

NPC Navy Reserve Personnel Management (PERS 9): (866) 827-5672;
www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Career-Management/Reserve-Personnel-Mgmt/

Navy Casualty Assistance: (800) 368-3202

Navy Retired Activities Office: (866) U-ASK-NPC (866-827-5672) MILL RetiredActivities@navy.mil;
www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Support-Services/21st-Century-Sailor/Retired-Activities/

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

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

Retiree Dental — Delta Dental: (888) 838-8737;
www.trdp.org

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Servicemembers Group Insurance (SGLI): (800) 419-1473;

www.insurance.va.gov

Pay/SBP Questions: 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

8899 E 56th Street

Indianapolis, IN 46249-1200

(800) 321-1080 / Fax: (800) 469-6559.

SBP/RSFPP annuitant:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

U.S. Military Annuitant Pay

8899 E 56th Street

Records:

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

Retired prior to 1995:

www.archives.gov/veterans/militaryservice-records

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

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

Army Echoes:

<https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/echoes>

Coast Guard Evening Colors:

<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg1/psc/ras>

Indianapolis IN 46249-1300

(800) 321-1080 / (800) 469-6559

VA: 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

Burial information: (800) 827-1000; www.cem.va.gov

GI Bill: (888) 442-4551; www.gibill.va.gov

Marine Corps Semper Fidelis:

www.manpower.usmc.mil/portal/page/portal/M_RA_HOME/MM/SR/RET_ACT/Semper_Fidelis

TRICARE: www.mytricare.com/mtc

TRICARE East: www.humanamilitary.com/beneficiary

AL, AR, CT, DC, DE, IL, IN, KY, FL, GA, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, TN (except 35 Western zips),

TX (except the extreme Western area) VT, VA, WI, and WV

TRICARE West: www.tricare-west.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 some zips in IA, MO, TN

TRICARE Overseas: (888) 777-8343; www.tricare-overseas.com

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

TRICARE mail order pharmacy: (877) 363-1303;

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www.tricare.mil/pharmacy
www.express-scripts.com

"USCG Retiree Services" (includes USPHS & NOAA)
<https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Human-Resources-CG-1/Retiree-Services-Program/>

Long Blue Line Retiree Bulletin (USCG, USPHS, NOAA) : <https://www.longblueline.org/>

Fact Sheets/Eligibility Requirements:

- Pre-Need Burial Benefit before you call checklist – [Funeral Director's Before You Call Checklist \(va.gov\)](#)
- Burial Benefits: http://www.cem.va.gov/burial_benefits/
- Burial Allowance: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/burials/Burial.pdf>
- Headstone/Marker/Medallion: <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/hmm/>
- Burial Flag: http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/burial_benefits/burial_flags.asp
- Survivor Pension: http://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/spouse_pen.asp
- Dependent Indemnity Compensation: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/survivors/dic.pdf>
- Aid and Attendance: http://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/aid_attendance_housebound.asp
- Medical Expense Report: <http://vbaw.vba.va.gov/bl/20/cio/20s5/forms/VBA-21P-8416-ARE.pdf>
- Presidential Memorial Certificate: <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/pmc.asp>
- Accrued Benefits: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/general/Accrued.pdf>

- Military Funeral Honors: [How do I arrange for military funeral honors for a veteran? And what exactly are they? > U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE > FAQ](#)

Burial Benefit Forms:

Burial

Allowance: <http://vbaw.vba.va.gov/bl/20/cio/20s5/forms/VBA-21P-530-ARE.pdf>

- Headstone/Marker/Medallion: <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-1330.pdf>

Mail Headstone/Marker/Medallion form

to:

Memorial Programs Service (41B)
Department of Veterans Affairs
5109 Russell Road
Quantico, VA 22134-3903

- Burial Flag: <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-27-2008-ARE.pdf>

If working with Funeral/Mortuary Director, they should procure the flag for the family.

Survivor Benefit Forms:

- Widows DIC/Pension Claim form: <http://vbaw.vba.va.gov/bl/20/cio/20s5/forms/VBA-21P-534EZ-ARE.pdf>
- Income and Asset Statement: <https://vbaw.vba.va.gov/bl/20/cio/20s5/forms/VBA-21P-0969-ARE.pdf>
- Substitution of Claimant (if Veteran had open claim/appeal @ death): <http://vbaw.vba.va.gov/bl/20/cio/20s5/forms/VBA-21P-0847-ARE.pdf>
- Accrued Benefits claim form <http://vbaw.vba.va.gov/bl/20/cio/20s5/forms/VBA-21P-601-ARE.pdf>
- Aid & Attendance/Housebound: <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-2680-ARE.pdf>

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- Aid & Attendance Nursing Home (if in home and filing
A&A): <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-0779-ARE.pdf>
- Veterans Life Insurance
Withdrawal: <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-29-4125-ARE.pdf>

Mail Life Insurance Withdrawal form

to:

Department of Veterans Affairs
Regional Office and Insurance Center
P.O. Box 7208 Philadelphia, PA 19101

- Presidential Memorial
Certificate: <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-0247.pdf>

Mail/FAX PMC Form to:

Presidential Memorial Certificates (41B3)
National Cemetery Administration
5109 Russell Road Quantico, VA 22134-3903
Fax (800) 455-7143

- Third Party Authorization:
<https://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-0845-ARE.pdf>
- Mail any completed forms (unless otherwise noted above) to appropriate office below:

Department of Veterans Affairs
Pension Intake Center
PO Box 5365
Janesville, WI 53547-5365

Toll Free Fax: 844-531-7818

U.S. Senate directory for 117th Congress.
https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm

U.S. Senate: Contacting U.S. Senators
<https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm>

U.S. Senate: Committee on Veterans' Affairs
https://www.senate.gov/general/committee_membership/committee_memberships_SVA.htm

U.S. Senate: Committee on Armed Services
https://www.senate.gov/general/committee_membership/committee_memberships_SSAS.htm

House Armed Services Committee members
<https://armedservices.house.gov/meet-our-members>

MOAA Surviving Spouses and Friends (Private Group) - Facebook link
https://www.facebook.com/groups/581427115240904/?multi_permaLinks=3829526447097605%2C3825063920877191%2C3824863560897227%2C3821842571199326%2C3815695241814059¬if_id=1609513928974893¬if_t=group_activity&ref=notif

CALMOAA (Private Group) – Facebook
Link: www.facebook.com/groups/582556558468846/

Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) - Facebook link
<https://www.facebook.com/28446275521/posts/1015908202705522/?d=n>

Navy Lodge locations: To make a reservation, call the Navy Lodge Department of Defense Reservation Center at (800) 628-9466, or go online at: www.navy-lodge.com or www.dodlodging.com

DODLODGING.COM

<https://www.dodlodging.com/html/california.htm>

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Here is a link identifying Military Bases in California. Note it does not include the Coast Guard, National Guard, NOAA, USPHS. NOAA is usually at Major Sea Ports around the Nation and US Territories. USPHS are co-located with the Coast Guard and reservations (plus).

<http://installationguide.militarytimes.com/>

Veterans Numbers and Websites

VETERANS CRISIS LINE - 800-273-8255 AND PRESS 1

- Chat online at <http://www.VeteransCrisisLine.net>
- Send a text message to 838255
- Service members and their families and friends can call and text the Veterans Crisis Line numbers and can chat online at <http://www.MilitaryCrisisLine.net>

TOLL FREE NUMBERS FOR CONTACTING VA BENEFITS: 1-800-827-1000

- Burial
- Death Pension
- Dependency Indemnity Compensation
- Direct Deposit
- Directions to VA Benefits Regional Offices
- Disability Compensation
- Disability Pension
- Education
- Home Loan Guaranty
- Medical Care
- Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment

HEALTH CARE BENEFITS: 1-877-222-8387

RESOURCE	PHONE NUMBER	WEBSITE
Bereavement Counseling	1-202-461-6530	
	1-877-345-8179 (or)	
Children of Women Vietnam Veterans (CWVV)	1-888-820-1756	
Civilian Health and Medical Program (CHAMPVA)	1-800-733-8387	
Debt Management Center (Collection of Non-Medical Debts)	1-800-827-0648	
Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) National Call Center for Homeless Veterans hotline	1-877-424-3838	

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eBenefits (General Questions & Technical Issues)	1-800-983-0937
Education (GI Bill):	1-888-442-4551
Federal Recovery Coordination Program	1-877-732-4456
Foreign Medical Program	1-888-820-1756
Gulf War Veterans Helpline	1-800-749-8387
Homeless veterans	1-877-222-8387
Income Verification and Means Testing	1-800-929-8387
Life Insurance	1-800-669-8477
	1-888-385-0235
	(or)
Meds by Mail	1-866-229-7389
National Call Center for Homeless Veterans	1-877-424-3838
National Cemetery Scheduling Office	1-800-535-1117
National Personnel Records Center	1-314-801-0800
National Resource Directory	https://www.nrd.gov/
Pension Management Center	1-877-294-6380
Presidential Memorial Certificate Program	1-202-565-4964
Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned or Veteran-Owned Small Business	1-202-303-3260
Special Health Issues	1-800-749-8387
Spina Bifida/Children of Women Vietnam Veterans	1-888-820-1756
Status of Headstones and Markers	1-800-697-6947
Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD)	1-800-829-4833
VA Caregiver Support Line	1-855-260-3274
VA for Vets	1-855-824-8387
VA Inspector General	1-800-488-8244
VA Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs	1-202-461-7600

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Veteran's ID Theft Hot Line	1-800-333-4636
Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS)	1-866-487-2365
Women Veterans	1-202-461-1070
Wounded Warrior Resource Center	1-800-342-9647

CALMOAA Press Release - As of 16 April these are the links to our press release.

PRNewswire

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/assemblyman-ramos-calmoaa-and-veterans-gather-to-support-ab-1623-301526108.html>

KTLA

<https://ktla.com/business/press-releases/cision/20220414DC26070/assemblyman-ramos-calmoaa-and-veterans-gather-to-support-ab-1623/>

Yahoo news

https://www.yahoo.com/now/assemblyman-ramos-calmoaa-veterans-gather-180600906.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLmNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAMahcBaz5pU9YSInDZnNiR-EiYJ5hriA2Nn3DdwON0gxdQFzHUGy-fxybH48OwZIZJ-KyaFiVUexOZMqWrUoYEMitBIR0_lrDKkm3drOFB9EQQtS3gFPMgRd5SVdXDXHf7dAv30f4SLmmSVovBdBh0RVF5r0UpCbifzy6xrRfHDn

News Leaflets

<https://newsleaflets.com/assemblyman-ramos-calmoaa-and-veterans-gather-to-support-ab-1623>

Benzinga

<https://www.benzinga.com/amp/content/26642968>

Next Wave Group

<https://www.nextwavegroup.com/news?rkey=20220414DC26070&filter=11189>

Valley News Live (Fargo, ND)

<https://www.valleynewslive.com/prnewswire/2022/04/14/assemblyman-ramos-calmoaa-veterans-gather-support-ab-1623/>

WAFF 48 (Huntsville, AL)

<https://www.waff.com/prnewswire/2022/04/14/assemblyman-ramos-calmoaa-veterans-gather-support-ab-1623/>

Longview News Journal WN.com Posted 2022-04-14

https://article.wn.com/view/2022/04/14/assemblyman_ramos_calmoaa_and_veterans_gather_to_support_ab_a/

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If you need plaques, CALMOAA coins with your chapter name inserted, coins, etc. please reach out to Anthony Evergin
 Sales Manager
 Promotional Products Dept.
 Vanguard Industries West
 (800) 433-1334 ext. 129
aevergin@vanguardmil.com
www.vanguardemblematics.com

