

UNDERSTANDING MILITARY AND VETERAN'S ISSUES IN AB1058 CASES

27th Annual AB 1058 Child Support
Training Conference

August 30, 2023

Hon. Adam Wertheimer, Commissioner, San Diego

Colonel Sarah T. Schaffer, USMCR, CLS-F

TOPICS COVERED

- The Absent Servicemember
 - Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA)
 - Deployment Issues/Rules
- Military Pay and Benefits (Active Duty and Reserve)
- Military Health Insurance Benefits
- Military Retirement
- Veteran Benefits
- GI Bill
- Military Support Guidelines
- Resources For The Court and FLF



US SUPREME COURT ON SSCRA

- Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act was Predecessor to SCRA
- Keep the following in mind when dealing with Service Members in all regards
- "Protect those who have been obliged to drop their affairs to take up the burdens of the nation"

Boone v. Lightner, 319 U.S. 561, 575 (1943)



LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION

- Again, referring to the SSCRA the US Supreme Court States:
- "The Act should be read with an eye friendly to those who dropped their affairs to answer their country's call"

Le Maistre v. Leffers, 333 U.S. 1, 6 (1948)

Section 3902 Purpose

The purposes of this Act 50 U.S.C. §§ 3902 et seq. are –

- (1)to provide for, strengthen, and expedite the national defense through protection extended by this Act to servicemembers of the United States to enable such persons to devote their entire energy to the defense needs of the Nation; and
- (2)to provide for the temporary suspension of judicial and administrative proceedings and transactions that may adversely affect the civil rights of servicemembers during their military service.









GENERAL PROVISIONS

Three primary areas of coverage:

- Protection against the entry of default judgments;
 - 50 U.S.C. § 3931
- Stay of proceedings where the servicemember has notice of the proceeding; and
 - 50 U.S.C. § 3932
- Stay or vacation of execution of judgments, attachments and garnishments. 50 U.S.C. §§ 3931,3932 and 3934.
 - 50 U.S.C. § 3934









This provision applies to Support!

50 U.S.C. § 3937

- (a) Interest rate limitation
 - (1) LIMITATION TO 6 PERCENT- An obligation or liability bearing interest at a rate in excess of 6 percent per year that is incurred by a servicemember, or the servicemember and the servicemember's spouse jointly, **before** the servicemember enters military service shall not bear interest at a rate in excess of 6 percent per year during the period of military service.
 - (2) FORGIVENESS OF INTEREST IN EXCESS OF 6 PERCENT- Interest at a rate in excess of 6 percent per year that would otherwise be incurred but for the prohibition in paragraph (1) is forgiven.

50 U.S.C. § 3937

- (b) Implementation of Limitation
 - (1) WRITTEN NOTICE TO CREDITOR- In order for an obligation or liability of a servicemember to be subject to the interest rate limitation in subsection (a), the servicemember shall provide to the creditor written notice and a copy of the military orders calling the servicemember to military service and any orders further extending military service, not later than 180 days after the date of the servicemember's termination or release from military service.









50 U.S.C. § 3937

- (b) Implementation of Limitation
 - (2) LIMITATION EFFECTIVE AS OF DATE OF ORDER TO ACTIVE DUTY Upon receipt of written notice and a copy of orders calling a servicemember to military service, the creditor shall treat the debt in accordance with subsection (a), effective as of the date on which the servicemember is called to military service.









50 U.S.C. § 3937

(c) CREDITOR PROTECTION - A court may grant a creditor relief from the limitations of this section if, in the opinion of the court, the ability of the servicemember to pay interest upon the obligation or liability at a rate in excess of 6 percent per year is not materially affected by reason of the servicemember's military service.









§ 3931. Protection of servicemembers against default judgments

(a) APPLICABILITY OF SECTION. This section applies to any civil action or proceeding, including any child custody proceeding, in which the defendant does not make an appearance.









"Appearance" Defined

- What constitutes an "appearance"?
 - Defined by state law
- Code of Civil Procedure §1014. Appearance.
 - A defendant appears in an action when the defendant answers, demurs, files a notice of motion to strike, files a notice of motion to transfer pursuant to Section 396b, moves for reclassification pursuant to Section 403.040, gives the plaintiff written notice of appearance, or when an attorney gives notice of appearance for the defendant.









Comments:

- Only for defendants or respondents
- Intended for defendants or respondents who have been served but not yet appeared
- Confusingly, a served defendant or respondent who has not yet appeared could elect relief under 3932 if the person has "actual notice" (personal service as opposed to service by publication?)









Important Note

SCRA default guidance applies to all of the following:

- Final Judgments
- Interim Orders
- Court Orders
- Administrative Support Orders but not to administrative enforcement remedies, such as liens, wage withholdings, etc.









- § 3931. Protection of servicemembers against default judgments
- (b) Affidavit Requirement
 - (1) PLAINTIFF TO FILE AFFIDAVIT. In any action or proceeding covered by this section, the court, before entering judgment for the plaintiff, shall require the plaintiff to file with the court an affidavit—
 - (A) stating whether or not the defendant is in military service and showing necessary facts to support the affidavit; or
 - (B) if the plaintiff is unable to determine whether or not the defendant is in military service, stating that the plaintiff is unable to determine whether or not the defendant is in military service.

§ 3931. Protection of servicemembers against default judgments

(b) Affidavit Requirement

(2) APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT DEFENDANT IN MILITARY SERVICE. If in an action covered by this section it appears that the defendant is in military service, the court may not enter a judgment until after the court appoints an attorney to represent the defendant. If an attorney appointed under this section to represent a servicemember cannot locate the servicemember, actions by the attorney in the case shall not waive any defense of the servicemember or otherwise bind the servicemember.

§ 3931. Protection of servicemembers against default judgments

(b) Affidavit Requirement

(3) DEFENDANT'S MILITARY STATUS NOT ASCERTAINED BY AFFIDAVIT. If based upon the affidavits filed in such an action, the court is unable to determine whether the defendant is in military service, the court, before entering judgment, may require the plaintiff to file a bond in an amount approved by the court. If the defendant is later found to be in military service, the bond shall be available to indemnify the defendant against any loss or damage the defendant may suffer by reason of any judgment for the plaintiff against the defendant, should the judgment be set aside in whole or in part. The bond shall remain in effect until expiration of the time for appeal and setting aside of a judgment under applicable Federal or State law or regulation or under any applicable ordinance of a political subdivision of a State. The court may issue such orders or enter such judgments as the court determines necessary to protect the rights of the defendant under this Act [50 USC §§ 3901 et seq.].

Comments on § 3931(b)(3):

- This provides the option of requiring a bond before allowing if there is an issue.
- Practically, these questionable cases will result in the appointment of counsel.









- § 3931. Protection of servicemembers against default judgments
- (d) STAY OF PROCEEDINGS. In an action covered by this section in which the defendant is in military service, the court shall grant a stay of proceedings for a minimum period of 90 days under this subsection upon application of counsel, or on the court's own motion, if the court determines that—
 - (1) there may be a defense to the action and a defense cannot be presented without the presence of the defendant; or
 - (2) after due diligence, counsel has been unable to contact the defendant or otherwise determine if a meritorious defense exists.









Section 3931

Comments on § 3931(d):

- No required form for application; may be made by way of pleadings, or verbally at hearing.
- Stay is mandatory if person qualifies.
- Stay must be 90 days but can be longer.
- Stay should be granted if appointed counsel cannot contact the person
 (appointed counsel required to "exhaust all efforts to determine whether the
 person is a servicemember, whether the person is in military service, and to
 contact the person.")
- Assuming no appearance, subsequent stays fall under this section as well.









Section 3931

Recap of Section 3931

- A petitioner is required by the court to file an affidavit stating whether or not the respondent is in military service or that the petitioner is unable to determine whether the respondent is in military service.
- If it appears that the respondent is in military service, the court may not enter a default judgment until after appointing an attorney to represent the defendant.









Section 3931

Recap of Section 3931 continued

- If the court is unable to determine whether the defendant is in military service, it may require the plaintiff to file an indemnity bond before entering a default judgment.
- Appointed counsel may request, and the court must grant a stay of proceeding for a minimum period of 90 days if a defense cannot be presented without the presence of the defendant or counsel cannot contact the defendant.
- Practically, the 90 day stay can be granted sua sponte when counsel is appointed.









Section 3932(a)

- § 3932. Stay of proceedings when servicemember has notice
- (a) APPLICABILITY OF SECTION. This section applies to any civil action or proceeding, including any child custody proceeding, in which the plaintiff or defendant at the time of filing an application under this section—
 - (1) is in military service or is within 90 days after termination of or release from military service; and
 - (2) has received notice of the action or proceeding.









Section 3932(a)

Comments on § 3932(a):

- Confusion as to when 3931 vs. 3932 apply.
- Practically speaking, only 3932 (not 3931) can apply in the following situations:
 - If it is a plaintiff/petitioner at issue.
 - If the defendant/respondent has actually appeared.
 - If the party is not in military service currently, but was within the last 90 days.
- Note that 3931(f) gives a defendant/respondent an election under 3931 or 3932 if the defendant/respondent has "actual notice."









§ 3932. Stay of proceedings when servicemember has notice (b) Stay of proceedings.

(1) AUTHORITY FOR STAY. At any stage before final judgment in a civil action or proceeding in which a servicemember described in subsection (a) is a party, the court may on its own motion and shall, upon application by the servicemember, stay the action for a period of not less than 90 days, if the conditions in paragraph (2) are met.









- § 3932. Stay of proceedings when servicemember has notice (b) Stay of proceedings.
 - (2) CONDITIONS FOR STAY. An application for a stay under paragraph (1) shall include the following:
 - (A) A letter or other communication setting forth facts stating the manner in which current military duty requirements materially affect the servicemember's ability to appear and stating a date when the servicemember will be available to appear.
 - (B) A letter or other communication from the servicemember's commanding officer stating that the servicemember's current military duty prevents appearance and that military leave is not authorized for the servicemember at the time of the letter.









Continued Comments on § 3932(b):

- Stay is mandatory if person qualifies.
- Stay can be 90 days but can be longer.









	SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO CENTRAL DIVISION, CENTRAL COURTHOUSE, 1100 UNION ST., SAN DIEGO, CA 92101 EAST COUNTY DIVISION, 250 E. MAIN ST., EL CAJON, CA 92020 NORTH COUNTY DIVISION, 325 S. MELROSE DR., VISTA, CA 92081 SOUTH COUNTY DIVISION, 500 3RD AVE., CHULA VISTA, CA 91910	FOR COURT USE ONLY
	PETITIONER(S)	_
	RESPONDENT(S)	_
	OTHER	JUDGE/DEPT
	FINDINGS AND ORDERS UNDER SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT (FAMILY LAW)	CASE NUMBER
	□ Petitioner □ Respondent □ Other: is a Presumed Service Mem that the PSM may be eligible for protection under the Servicemembers Civil Relin Accordingly, the PSM is entitled to an initial 90-day stay of the entire action and the scope representation. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED: 1. The entire action is stayed for 90 days from the date of this order. 2. A qualified attorney, including a judge advocate ("Pro Bono Attorney"), as deter San Diego County/North County Bar Association Pro Bono Panel of Attorneys, representations of the PSM ("The PSM of Association Pro Bono Panel of Attorneys).	of Act (SCRA), 50 USC §§ 3931-3932. appointment of an attorney for a limited
	3. The Pro Bono Attorney will serve solely to determine whether the PSM is eligi appear at a status conference on the date and time scheduled below to discuss a. What contact, if any, was made with the PSM b. Is the PSM eligible for a statutory stay c. If eligible, what is the requested length of any extended stay and why d. Is the Pro Bono Attorney asking to be relieved of his or her duties as appoint is the Pro Bono Attorney requesting or agreeing to the continued limited solong and for what purpose 4. Any and all appearances and filings by the Pro Bono Attorney will: a. Not be construed as a general appearance by the PSM. b. Not constitute an appearance for jurisdictional purposes. c. Not constitute a waiver of any substantive or procedural defense. d. Not waive any rights or defenses of the PSM. e. Not otherwise bind the PSM.	ble for protection under the SCRA and the following issues: Inted counsel cope representation and, if so, for how
	 Receipt of permanent change of station or deployment orders, or termination o advocate, while appointed as a Pro Bono Attorney, will constitute good cause for Pro Bono Attorney. All filing, appearance, or other fees from the Pro Bono Attorney related to this This does not relieve the PSM of the obligation to pay all such fees as required All scheduled hearings between the date of this order and the Status Conference All other counsel and self-represented litigants in this case are encouraged to a on	r withdrawal and substitution of another limited scope appointment are waived. by law. e are continued to that hearing date.
	IT IS SO ORDERED.	
	Date:	
		ge/Commissioner of the Superior Court
THE PERSON NAMED IN	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
	I certify that I am not a party to the above-entitled action, that I placed a copy of this to the parties shown with postage prepaid, and deposited it in the United States mai San Diego Vista, California.	s form in a sealed envelope addressed l at
		e Superior Court
	Date: by	, Deputy
	SDSC 0-245 (Rev. 6/19) FINDINGS AND ORDERS UNDER THE SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT (F	AMIL V LAVAD
	FINE SELECTION OF THE RELIEF ACT (F.	AWILT LAVV)



ACTIVATION TO SERVICE

Family Code § 3651 (c)(2)

• Process and form (FL-398) to modify child and spousal support due to reduction in income from being called to active duty.

Family Code § 3653 (c)

• Retroactivity of order per FC 3651

Family Code § 17440

 DCSS obligation to work with military and activated servicemembers to implement FC 3651 and the DCSS process to do so.

	T
ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY OR GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY (under Family Code, §§ 17400 and 17406) (Name, State Bar number, and address):	FOR COURT USE ONLY
TELEPHONE NO.: FAX NO. (Optional):	
E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional): ATTORNEY FOR (Name):	
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF	
STREET ADDRESS:	
MAILING ADDRESS:	
CITY AND ZIP CODE:	
BRANCH NAME:	
PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF:	
RESPONDENT/DEFENDANT:	
OTHER PARENT:	
NOTICE OF ACTIVATION OF MILITARY SERVICE AND DEPLOYMENT	CASE NUMBER:
AND REQUEST TO MODIFY A SUPPORT ORDER	
1. TO (name):	
2. A hearing on this request will be held as follows:	
	Rm.:
a. Date: Time: Dept:	LIMI
Time for service hearing is shortened. Service must be on a Any responsive declaration must be served on or before (date):	
4. Any responsive declaration must be served on or before (date):	
4. Any responsive declaration must be served on or before (date): Date:	
4. Any responsive declaration must be served on or before (date): Date: NOTICE	JUDICIAL OFFICER
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	PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF: CASE NUMBER:	
RE	SPONDENT/DEFENDANT:	
	OTHER PARENT:	
	I am requesting the court to change the existing	
	a. child support spousal support family support order made under the case number listed above to an amount based on my income while deployed.	
	b. earnings assignment order to state the new support amount if the request in item 5a is granted.c. This support is payable by	
	petitioner/plaintiff respondent/defendant other parent. This request is based on:	
	a. petitioner's/plaintiff's respondent's/defendant's other parent's military deployment	
	b. completed attached Financial Statement (Simplified) (form FL-155) or completed Income and Expense Declaration (form FL-150)	
	c. the attached service member's Notice of Deployment that has been submitted to the local child support agency (Attach this form if the local child support agency is involved.)	
	Additional required information	
	a. service member's out-of-state deployment date is (specify date and attach a copy of the order of deployment):	
	b. service member's duration of activation is (specify beginning and end dates):	
	A blank Responsive Declaration to Order to Show Cause or Notice of Motion (form FL-320) and a blank Financial Statement (Simplified) (form FL-155) or a blank Income and Expense Declaration (form FL-150) will be served with the moving papers.	
	Check all that apply (you must check at least one box):	
	a. While the service member is deployed, his or her employer will supplement the military pay (specify amount per military pay (specify amount per military pay) (specify amount per military per military per military pay) (specify amount per military per military per military pe	onth
	b. While the service member is deployed, his or her employer will not supplement the military pay, and the service member will only have military pay in the amount stated on the attached Financial Statement (Simplified) (form FL-155) or liand Expense Declaration (form FL-150).	
	c. It is unknown whether the service member's employer will supplement the military pay.	
	d. While deployed, the service member will have other income (specify amount per month, source of income, and atterproof): \$	ach
	The other party and the service member have previously agreed that spousal support cannot be modified or terminate (attach a copy of the agreement.)	d
	The facts in support of this request are (specify):	
	Contained in an attached declaration.	
	Send notice of the hearing to the service member at (specify address):	
	I will be deployed out of state at the time of the hearing. I waive appearing in person at the court hearing. I ask the cc go forward with the hearing to decide if the support will be temporarily modified until I can appear in person. This requ not a waiver of my right to a stay or rehearing of the matter under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA). (This is only valid if the service member signs below.)	est is
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Page 2 of 5



MILITARY PAY

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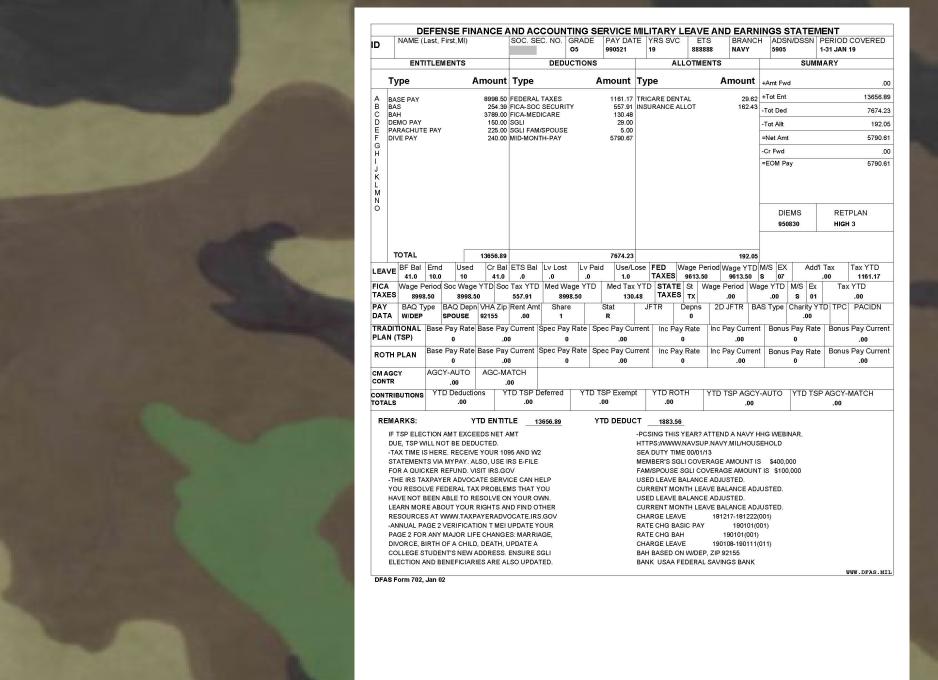
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RIGHTS OF MARINES INDEBTED TO THE GOVERNMENT. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO (1) INSPECT AND COPY RECORDS PERTAINING TO THE DEBT (2) QUESTION THE VALIDITY OF A DEBT AND SUBMIT REFUTING EVIDENCE (3) NEGOTIATE A REPAYMENT SCHEDULE (4) REQUEST A WAIVER OF INDEBTNESS.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM YOUR COMMANDING OFFICER VIA YOUR CHAIN OF COMMAND.

Remarks								
BROUGHT FWD	.00							
ENTITLEMENTS	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,							
BASIC PAY	6,130.20	TAXABLE FOR	FITW,	SITW & FICA				
BAS (MONTHLY)	452.56							
BAH WITH DEPNS	4,062.00							
TOTAL	10,644.76							
DEDUCTIONS								
FITW (FED TAX)	703.69							
SOCIAL SECURITY	380.07							
MEDICARE	88.89							
SITW (STATE TAX MA)	279.84							
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TSGLI	1.00							
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TOTAL	8,341.77							
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TAKE THIS ACTION, CONT					on me nunn			
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PITS, AGENT ORANGE, AN								
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AS OF 09 JAN 20, 000 HIGH TEMPO DEPLOYMENT DAYS ACCRUED

SINCE 1 OCT 00 (OR SINCE ENTERING MILITARY SERVICE)

SERV GP LIFE INSURANCE DEBT BALANCE \$.00

ORIGINAL DEBT \$25.00 24 JAN 23 24 JAN 23

FAM SER GROUP LIFE INSUR DEBT BALANCE \$.00

ORIGINAL DEBT \$4.50 24 JAN 23 24 JAN 23

UNPAID DEBT BALANCE *TOTAL*: \$.00

TOTAL PERFORMANCE FY 23: UTA 08 AFTP 00 ET 00 ATA 00

JPT 00 AAUTA 00 AANT 00 RMA 00 SUPIDT TNG 00

MCOFT 00 RMAM 00 AT/ADT 004 FHDA 000

INACTIVE DUTY TRAINING 03 DEC 22 1 03 DEC 22 2 04 DEC 22 1

INACTIVE DUTY TRAINING 04 DEC 22 2

YOUR SGLI DEDUCTION INCLUDES TRAUMATIC INJURY PROTECTION (TSGLI)

SPOUSE SGLI COVERAGE: \$100,000

PLEASE VERIFY YOUR STATE OF LEGAL RESIDENCE FOR STATE INCOME

TAX PURPOSE. CONTACT YOUR PAYROLL OFFICE TO FILE A NEW DD FORM

2058 TO CHANGE/ESTABLISH THE CORRECT STATE IMMEDIATELY.

-NEW VA PACT LAW, VISIT: HTTPS://WWW.VA.GOV/RESOURCES/

THE-PACT-ACT-AND-YOUR-VA-BENEFITS/

-YOUR HEALTH IS IMPORTANT: TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BURN PIT AND

REGISTRY, VISIT WWW.HEALTH.MIL/AHBURNPITREGISTRY

-SGLI COVERAGE AUTOMATICALLY INCREASES MARCH 1, 2023, VISIT:

HTTPS://WWW.BENEFITS.VA.GOV/INSURANCE/SGLI-INCREASE-FAQS.ASP

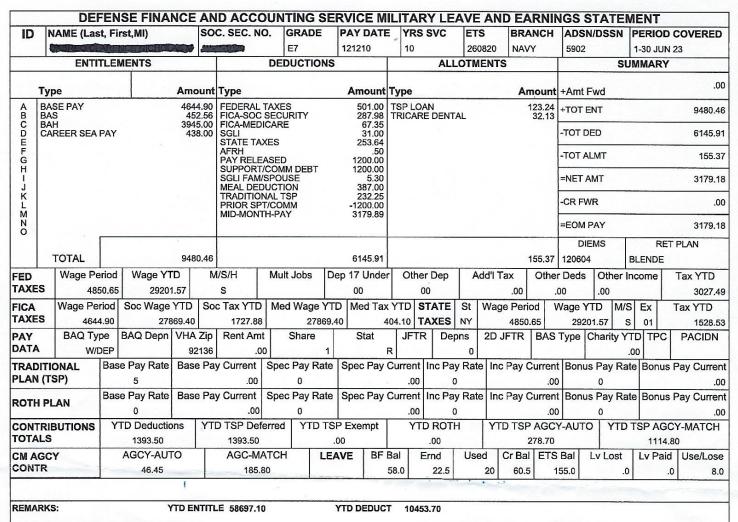
WWW.DFAS.MIL

MILITARY PAY

- Pay vs. Allowances
- Use BAH or Value of Provided Housing?
- Home State
- Military Pay Tables:
 - https://www.dfas.mil/militarymembers/payentitlements/Pay-Tables.html
- BAH, COLAs and OHA rates:
 - https://www.travel.dod.mil/allowances/basic-allowancefor-housing/bah-rate-lookup/







IF TSP ELECTION AMT EXCEEDS NET AMT DUE, TSP WILL NOT BE DEDUCTED.

-NEW SGLI MAX COVERAGE IS NOW \$500K, TO CHANGE YOUR ELECTION VISIT: HTTPS://WWW.VA. GOV/LIFE-INSURANCE/OPTIONS-ELIGIBILITY/SGLI/
-THE TAX YEAR IS HALF OVER, NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO REVIEW YOUR DEDUCTIONS! FOR MORE INFO VISIT: HTTPS://WWW.IRS.GOV/INDIVIDUALS/TAX-WITHHOLDING-ESTIMATOR.

-A NEW LAW EXPANDS VA HEALTH CARE AND

BENEFITS FOR VETERANS EXPOSED TO BURN PITS,

AGENT ORANGE, AND OTHER TOXIC SUBSTANCES.
LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PACT ACT: HTTPS://WWW.
VA.GOV/RESOURCES/THE-PACT-ACT-AND-YOUR-VA-BENEFITS/
SEA DUTY TIME 05/01/10
MEMBER'S SGLI COVERAGE AMOUNT IS \$500,000
FAM/SPOUSE SGLI COVERAGE AMOUNT IS \$100,000
BAH BASED ON W/DEP, ZIP 92136
REPORT SUPPORT/COMM DEBT 230601 (152)
SUPPORT/COMM DEBT HELD PAY BALANCE \$1200.00
BANK NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Family Code Section 4058 (a)(3)

- (a) The annual gross income of each parent means income from whatever source derived, except as specified in subdivision (c) and includes, but is not limited to, the following: ...
 - (3) In the discretion of the court, employee benefits or selfemployment benefits, taking into consideration the benefit to the employee, any corresponding reduction in living expenses, and other relevant facts.

In Re Marriage of Stanton 190 Cal.App.4th 547 (2010)

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REMARKS: VTD ENTITLE 23451.27 IF TSP ELECTION AMT EXCEEDS NET AMT OUE, TSP WILL NOT BE DECUCTED. -THE BLENDED RETIREMENT SYSTEM OPT-IN COURSE (2 HRS) (COURSE MIJOR US1332) IS NOW AVAILABLE VIA IND AT HTTPS://IXODIRECT.JTEN.MIJ./THE COURSE IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE ELIGIBLE SERVICE MEMBERS INFORMATION FOR MAINING A DECISION ABOUT WINCH DOD RETIREMENT SYSTEM BEST MEETS THEIR NEEDS. THIS IS MANDATORY FOR ALL OPT-IN ELIGISLE SERVICE MEMBERS. -TRICARE DENTAL PROGRAM CONTRACTOR CHANGE						SEA TAX MEM FAME TOT STO TAX COM SITM IND STO BAH	Y UCOTIOP (DUTY TIME (EXEMPT LY EXEMPT LY EXERS SQLI SPOUSE SQ AL INDEBTEI P HOP LOCA EXEMPT LY IBAT ZONE - Y AQUISTME EBITEDNESS IP FAMILY SI EASED ON	COSA DAMBUTS BAL = 5 COVERS BL COV DNESS ITION 11 BAL AS STOP 0 ENT (CZ DUE UI EPARAT W/DEP.	0.0. AGE AN ERAGE \$125.00 70215(0 60F 170 60000-1 6 FOR C 5 \$125.0	AMOUNT (082) 61) 1215 70229(06) ALIFORN (0(061) LOW 1700	IS \$100 (
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MILITARY PAY AND BENEFITS

- Special Pays and Tax Rules
- BAH Rules Do You Get It or Not? With Dependents? BAH Differential?
- ID Cards for Children Incidental Benefit to Custodial Parent



RESERVE PAY

- Start with W-2
- Drill Pay
- Annual Training Pay
- Travel Pay, Per Diem and Allowances.
 - Income?
 - Necessary Job Related Expenses?



HEALTH INSURANCE

- Health insurance provided by a SM for their dependents is called Tricare.
- Health insurance for the military and their children is administered through DEERS (Defense Eligibility Enrollment System).
- DEERS registration is required for Tricare eligibility.

HEALTH INSURANCE

- Continued Health Benefits Coverage
 - -10 U.S.C. 1078(a)
- Former Spouse Protection
 - Retired Pay and/or Annuity Pay

MILITARY RETIREMENT

- NDAA 17
- Rule for Division
- Frozen Benefit Rule
- Supreme Court Case
- Howell v. Howell, 137 S. Ct. 1400 (2017)

MILITARY RETIREMENT (CONT.)

- Concurrent Receipt Disability Pay
- Combat Related Special Compensation
- CRSC is a special compensation for combat-related disabilities. It is non-taxable, and retirees must apply to their Branch of Service to receive it.
- CRDP is a restoration of retired pay for retirees with service-connected disabilities, and it is taxable. No application is required. Eligible retirees receive CRDP automatically.



VETERAN'S BENEFITS

- VA disability compensation CAN use for support
- VA disability pension CANNOT use for support
- To distinguish between the two pensions, look to the veteran's award letter. If the veteran is receiving countable "disability compensation," those words will appear in the letter. If the veteran is receiving an exempt need-based pension, the letter will refer to "countable income."





GI BILL

• GI Bill, Is it Income?

• Post 911 GI Bill v. Montgomery GI Bill

How much is income for support?

• BAH for E5, ZIP code

Benefits for kids



MILITARY SUPPORT GUIDELINES

- Each Branch Has Its Own Set of Guidelines for Child and Spousal Support
- Usually Higher Than California Guidelines
- Administratively Set by Command
- Not Applied If Family Court Matter Filed

MILITARY SUPPORT GUIDELINES

- United States Marine Corps
 - Volume 9 MCO P5800.16
 - LEGADMINMAN
 - Family Support

- United States Navy
 - MILPERSMAN 1754-030
 - Family Support



MILITARY SUPPORT GUIDELINES

- United States Army
 - Army Regulation 608-99, paragraph 2-6
 - Family Support

- United States Air Force
 - Air Force Instruction 36-2906, Personal Financial Responsibility, paragraph 3.2.1
 - Family Support

