

RETIREE OFFICE NEWS – 171st ARW



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Office Hours: Thursdays 0800 – 1200

“The season for enjoying the fullness of life – partaking of the harvest, sharing the harvest with others, and reinvesting and saving portions of the harvest for yet another season of growth.” ~ Denis Waitley

171ARW News: The 171st ARW web page has replaced the “Tanker Times” which includes a wealth of information and news to keep you up to date on the 171st. A “Retiree Column” has been added at the bottom left hand corner of the home page. Here you will find the “Retiree Office News” beginning with April 2012. <http://www.171arw.ang.af.mil/>

Email Addresses: If you would like to hear about upcoming retiree news and events, please provide your email address to Bonnie Kriberney at <mailto:bjkriberney@msn.com>.

Retiree Brunch: 3rd Monday in January, April, July, and October

When: CY 2012 - January 16th, April 16th, July 16th, and **October 15th**

Where: Golden Corral, 900 Park Manor Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15205 (Near Mall at Robinson) (412) 788-1776.

Time: 1100 hours

PLEASE NOTE RESTAURANT CHANGE to Golden Corral effective October 15th. See “July/August Retiree News” for further details and directions. Don’t forget to ask for your military or senior discount. Hope to see you all in October!

Retirements: Congratulations to our recent retirees who retired in August and September 2012. Please do not hesitate to contact the Retiree Office, if you need assistance.

Rank	Last Name	First Name	Retired
CMS	SMITH	CRAIG	18-SEP-12
MSG	BOSSARD	BERKLEY	23-AUG-12
MSG	MALICH	PETER	16-SEP-12
TSG	LEWIS	MARK	01-SEP-12
TSG	STARTARE	FRANCIS	13-SEP-12

Sympathies: Please inform our office if you hear of the passing of one of our fellow 171st, 112th, or 258TH members.

Is your Beneficiary Information up to date?

You can verify your beneficiary information by checking your 'Retiree Account Statement'. You receive this statement any time there is a change in your pay or personal information. You can also view your 'Retiree Account Statements' on MyPay, if you have an account. If you need to set up a MyPay account, see the instructions in the July/August Retiree News.

On your 'Retiree Account Statement', look for the section titled 'Arrears of Pay Beneficiary Information' and validate the beneficiary or beneficiaries you have on record. If you need to make a change to your beneficiary, please go to the DFAS web site below which provides important information regarding your retirement pay.

Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) – Retired Military & Annuitants:

Link: <http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary.html>

Customer Service: 1-800-321-1080 (if you don't have computer access)

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
Providing payment services for the U.S. Department of Defense
888-332-7411

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DFAS Home > Retired Military & Annuitants > Provide for Loved Ones > Arrears of Pay

Arrears of Pay

Arrears of Pay is a one-time payment made to a beneficiary after your death. The arrears of pay payment to your beneficiary will include:

1. The pro-rated amount of your final month's pay, and
2. Any other money owed to you at the time of your death

In most cases, the Arrears of Pay will include the pro-rated amount of your final month's retirement pay. This is because your entitlement to retirement pay ends on the date of your death. When your death is reported, **DFAS will reclaim your final month's pay** and audit your account. The amount of the payment actually owed to you will then be computed and given to your AOP Beneficiary.

Why It's So Important

Failing to designate an AOP beneficiary could cause stress and financial hardship for your survivors during an already difficult time. If you do not designate an AOP beneficiary, the payment of any money that remains in your retirement account could be greatly delayed.

When no beneficiary is named, the payment is made to the highest person in what is known as the "**Order of Precedence**." The Order or Precedence is the federally mandated order of inheritance that applies to legacies without a designated beneficiary.

It can take many months to locate your survivors, identify who comes highest in the Order of Precedence, and then make the payment. That's why having a current, correct and complete beneficiary designation on file is important to prevent delays or errors in your arrears payments.

Designating a sole beneficiary in your will does not automatically make that person your AOP beneficiary. AOP determination is based exclusively on the AOP beneficiary election in your retired pay account.

Your AOP beneficiary will also be the person DFAS contacts for assistance in closing your account, so it is important to designate a person you trust to handle your affairs.

Related Links

- [Designating an AOP Beneficiary](#)
- [Managing Your AOP Beneficiary Designation](#)
- [Order of Precedence for Payment of Deceased Retirees](#)
- [What Happens when you die](#)

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Read above then click on (see next page)

To designate or make a change to your Arrears of Pay (AOP) beneficiary, follow the three simple steps below. After you mail or fax the form DD 2894 to DFAS, watch and verify that the change was made correctly on your next "Retiree Account Statement".

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
Providing payment services for the U.S. Department of Defense
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Customer Service
800-321-1080
M-F, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET
AskDFAS
Forms
Frequently Asked Questions

News and Events
About R&A Pay
Plan for Retirement
Apply for Retirement
Manage Your Retirement
Disability Entitlements
Provide for Loved Ones
Survivors and Beneficiaries

DFAS Home | Retired Military & Annuitants | Provide for Loved Ones | **Arrears of Pay** | Designate an AOP Beneficiary

Designating an AOP Beneficiary

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

You can choose anyone, from family members to friends to associates, to be your AOP beneficiary. But if you don't designate someone, it could cause undue stress and financial hardship in the event of your death.

When you applied for retirement, you were asked to provide a Designation of Beneficiary for Unpaid Retired Pay on your Data for Payment of Retired Personnel (DD 2656) form. If you did not provide this information when you retired or you need to change your beneficiary, you can do so at any time.

Three Simple Steps

To designate an Arrears of Pay (AOP) beneficiary, all you have to do is follow these simple steps:

1. Complete a Designation of Beneficiary Information form ([DD 2894](#)).
2. Sign and date the form. (Unsigned and undated forms will not be processed.)
3. Mail or fax the form to:

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

Designating Multiple Beneficiaries

Section 2 of DD 2894 (Designated Beneficiary Information) allows you to share your AOP with up to five beneficiaries. You may leave each beneficiary a portion or establish an order of precedence.

To designate two or more beneficiaries, complete each subsection, then designate the percentage you want each beneficiary to receive (such as 60 percent) in the corresponding "Share" field. The total of the "Share" column cannot exceed 100 percent.

To establish a beneficiary order of precedence, complete Section 2 with the primary beneficiary listed first, and then designate each beneficiary to receive 100 percent in the "Share" column.

2013 TRICARE Prime Fees Increase:

The new fees for retirees, survivors and family members under 65 will be as follows, effective October 1, 2012.

	Annual	Quarterly	Monthly
Individual	\$269.28	\$67.32	\$22.44
Family	\$538.56	\$134.64	\$44.88

\$14.6 M Navy project begins – 911th hopefully saved:

The Navy Reserve broke ground Saturday morning (Oct 6th) for a \$14.6 million building on the grounds of the 911h Airlift Wing in Moon, which leaders hope could save the endangered Air Force Reserve base.

The 30,600-square-foot Navy Operational Support Center is expected to open in spring 2014.

The building will house offices, training space and medical and fitness areas that can accommodate 300 Navy reservists. It also will be used for joint training with 911th reservists, per officials.

Rep. Tim Murphy, R-Upper St. Clair thinks this center actually helps us keep the 911th open.

In February, the Air Force announced plans to close the Moon air base by September 2012 and said the move could save \$354 million over five years. Murphy and other local leaders prompted Defense Secretary Leo Panetta to suspend the would-be closure at least until Congress finishes work on a new budget.

The Navy Reserve's current support center in North Versailles was built on an old slag pile and its foundation has shifted and cracked over the years. The North Versailles center will close when the one in Moon opens.

The new Navy Reserve center will increase the military presence in Moon, already home to the 911th, the Pennsylvania Guard's 171st Air Refueling Wing and the Army Reserve's 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command.

Moon Military Commissary update:

Since the ground-breaking ceremony on August 17, 2012, the Mississippi-based Carothers Construction company has begun the \$12 million contract. If you drive past the corner of University Boulevard and the Interstate 376 Business Route in Moon, which is the new location of the Military Commissary, you will see that a lot of dirt is being move around. There is no sign of a foundation, yet, so it is unknown which road the commissary will face. The 43,000 square-foot facility is projected to open in the fall of 2013.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND LINKS:

171st Air Refueling Wing: <http://www.171arw.ang.af.mil/>

Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) – Retired Military & Annuitants:

<http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary.html>

Customer Service: 1-800-321-1080 (if you don't have computer access)

Express Scripts – TRICARE Pharmacy: <http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/>

Toll-Free within the U.S.: 1-877-363-1303

Military.com Benefits: <http://www.military.com/>

myPay: <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>

TRICARE Health Insurance Coverage & Benefits Plans: <http://www.tricare.mil>

Tricare North Region – Health Net Federal Services: 1-877-874-2273

TRICARE For Life: 1-866-773-0404