



111 th Attack Wing Retirees Activities Office Horsham AGS,Pa.



Newsletter Vol. 2 Issue #4 2018 Winter

A publication of the 111th Attack Wing Retirees Activities Office (RAO) whose mission is in support of the base commander in providing information and assistance to military retirees their families and surviving spouses residing in the Pa., N.J. and N.Y. Information has been edited and does not reflect the official policy of any U.S. Government agency.

**111th Attack Wing Retirees Activities Office/RAO/ CVR
Building 203, Room 168 Horsham, Pa. 19044-5203 Telephone 215-323-7135**

The 111th Attack Wing Retiree Activities Office is an official activity organized in accordance with AFI 36-3106. The office is here to assist military retirees, their spouses, military veterans, guard and reserve personnel from all U.S. military services. We can provide information and contacts for pay (DFAS), benefits and entitlements, personnel and casualty affairs and interface with these organizations to help personnel. We have thirteen volunteers in our office including our director, retired Chief Master Sgt. Jenny Pappas. We are seeking more military retirees that have the time to volunteer (three hours per shift).

The 111th Retirees Activities Office (RAO) is open Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. – 3p.m. and also Saturday morning of 111th Drill/RDO 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Telephone 215-323-7135. Please leave a message if there is no answer.

If you need to contact Casualty Assistance Representative at Joint Base McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst, their phone number is 609-754-3814/3154 or cell 609-668-5385.

If you need to replace or get a new ID card, please call 111th Customer Service Office at 215-323-7419. Contact for the Airman and Family Readiness Programs Office is: 215-323-7132

The 111th Attack Wing's external websites are at <http://www.111attackwing.ang.af.mil> or <http://www.facebook.com/111thATKW>

You will find all events and up to date info there including the Retirees Office, ID card, JAG information and current news and programs offered by the wing.

A Retiree Survivor's Guide to Benefits is available on the Library page of the Air Force Retiree Services website. <http://www.retirees.af.mil>

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This guide provides general information about most federal benefits and entitlements available to eligible family members of deceased retired Airmen and it explains various application processes. People can direct specific questions to the government agency administering the benefits or discuss these matters with an Air Force casualty assistance representative.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Next 111th Attack Wing Military Retirees Appreciation Day

Planned date: **Saturday 13 July 2019**

Planned Times, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

ACTIVITIES PLANNED:

Representatives from the VA, Casualty Assistance, Family Programs, Space A, ID Cards Section, Retiree Activities Office, Veterans Associations will be giving briefings during program.

EVENT LOCATIONS:

111th Attack Wing Headquarters, Building 203, Auditorium

Horsham Air Guard Station, Horsham Pa. 19044-5203 (formerly known as the Willow Grove Air Station)

SPECIAL DETAILS AND AGENDA: Briefings on Military and Veteran benefits and entitlements and their spouses. Also info about what is available for Military Retirees at the facility.

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Contact Number for more information 111th Attack Wing RAO Office,
215-323-7135 or DSN 358-7135

CONTACT E-MAIL FOR INFORMATION

jenny.pappas.ctr@mail.mil

vincent.acquaviva.ctr@mail.mil

Lists of Retiree Publications on Websites on line:

Army(Echoes): <http://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement>

Navy(Shift Colors): <http://www.shiftcolors.navy.mil>

Air Force (Afterburner): <http://www.retirees.af.mil/afterburner>

Marine Corps(Semper Fidelis) <http://www.usmc-mccs.org>

Coast Guard (Evening Colors) <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cgl/psc/ras>

Mil Retiree Space A lodging <http://www.dodlodging.net>

All Services (Gov./Mil.) information

DFAS/My Pay <http://www.dfas.mil> Tricare <http://www.tricare.mil>

Tricare Dental <http://trdp.org>

Military Records <http://www.archives.gov/veterans>

Casualty Assistance <http://militaryonesource.mil/casualty>

General News and Info <http://www.militaryonesource.mil>

AMC Travel Space A <http://www.amc.af.mil/amctravel>

AMC Space A Travel Page <http://www.spacea.net>

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Space A travel Documents <http://www.amc.af.mil/shared/media/document/afd-140423-118.pdf>

Military Burial Honors Eligibility:

DOD Policy is mandated by law to provide a minimum of a two-person uniformed detail to present the core elements of the funeral honors ceremony, and one service member must represent the veteran's branch of service. Core Elements include playing of TAPS, Folding the American Flag, and presenting the American Flag to the family.

DOD is required to provide a (two-service member) detail; policy encourages each service to provide elements as firing team and pallbearers. They can be provided by Veteran Service Organizations.

Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/2016/07/11/official-urges-families-to-learn-about-burial-eligibility.html>

DFAS Arrears of Pay Information: in cases of Military Retiree or spouse death.

<http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/provide/aop/aop-order.html>

<http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/retiree-death.html>

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

Military Records on-line Available DD-214's and records

<http://www.vetrecs.archives.gov>

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>

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2019 TRDP transition to FEDVIP

Beginning on January 1, 2019, the TRDP will be replaced by the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) which offers dental benefits comparable to the TRDP and a choice of ten dental carriers including Delta Dental. Enrollment in the FEDVIP will begin November 12, 2018 and run through December 10, 2018. You must select a FEDVIP dental plan to continue your dental care benefits.

Under the FEDVIP program, there are no waiting periods (except for orthodontics in most plans), and you will receive your full FEDVIP benefits beginning on January 1, 2019 with whichever FEDVIP plan you select during the November/December 2018 open season.

Source :Tricare Spring 2018

Notify DFAS When Life-Changing Events Happen:

As you move through your retirement years, be sure to keep DFAS informed whenever changes happen that could affect your Retiree pay. Keep your contact information and check payment information in My Pay current, and if you experience a life-changing event, contact DFAS direct at Retired and Annuitant Pay to let them know

The following are life-changing events and how they could impact your account. Marriage, Survivor Benefits Plan (SBP), Arrears of Pay (AOP) beneficiary, federal income tax. Divorce: SBP, AP Federal Income Tax, Death of Spouse: SPB, AOP, federal income tax. Birth of Child: SPB, AOP, Moving to a new place of residence

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1099-R and retiree account statement mailing. Opening, changing or closing a bank account: net pay and allotment direct deposit.

Changing your e-mail address stored in My PAY: My Pay notifications for 1099-R and retiree account statement availability, retiree newsletters, and various DFAS notifications.

Paying off and/or closing an insurance policy: net pay and allotment direct deposit. If you keep your information current in My Pay and submit the appropriate paperwork when a life-changing event occurs, you will help DFAS improve the service they provide to you and your loved ones.

By reporting these events when they happen, your beneficiaries will have fewer issues and concerns to resolve later. Remember to report changes to the new mailing address (Source DFAS Spring 2018):

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

U.S. Military Retired Pay

8899 E 56th Street

Indianapolis, IN 46249-1200

II. Your Casualty Assistance Officer

We understand that you and your family may face tough decisions concerning your deceased loved one in addition to your concerns for the future of your family. To make sure you receive the highest level of support, you have been assigned a casualty assistance officer. This is the person to whom you should address your questions, as he or she will be your primary connection to the Department of Defense. The different branches of service have different titles for this person. In this booklet, we will use the term casualty assistance officer.

At different times during your loved one's military career, he or she was given the opportunity to make choices with regard to notification of next of kin, payment of death gratuity, unpaid pay and allowances and disposition of remains in the event he or she became a casualty. The

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Department of Defense Form 93, "Record of Emergency Data," provides this information. The Department of Defense is required to follow applicable laws and the instructions of your loved one with regard to these benefits and entitlements. Your casualty assistance officer will assist you in seeing that these instructions are carried out.

You may wonder how long your casualty assistance officer will assist you. This will depend on your circumstances. Your casualty assistance officer will continue to assist you until all benefits and entitlements for which you are eligible have been processed. Afterward, your service will have staff available to help you with any concerns that may arise. When family members are spread across several cities or states, there may be several casualty assistance officers involved. **The military services have different titles for their casualty assistance officers:**

Army Casualty assistance officer

Marine Corps Casualty assistance calls officer

Navy Casualty assistance calls officer

Air Force Casualty assistance representative

Coast Guard Casualty assistance calls

Meeting your casualty assistance officer

Shortly after you have been notified of your loved one's death (if notification was not made by your casualty assistance officer), you will receive a phone call from your casualty assistance officer to arrange a visit. He or she will ask if you have any immediate concerns, confirm your mailing address and arrange to meet with you at the earliest time and place convenient to you. It is important that you meet with your casualty assistance officer as soon as possible, usually within 24 hours of his or her call. The first visit will be brief, probably less than an hour. The main purpose of this first visit is to exchange information. In some cases, your casualty assistance officer may ask to meet with you in private. It may feel like a tremendous amount of information to deal with, coming so quickly after learning of the death of your loved one. You may want assistance from a counselor, a doctor, an interpreter or even a member of your church.

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Your casualty assistance officer can help you connect with these support providers. You may have other family members present if you desire.

Source :DOD Casualty Assistance

Note #1: Page 10 and Page 11 (Sources DFAS/My Pay and Tricare /Defense Health Agency Nov 2018.)

NOTE#2: Picture on Page 9 is the 111th Attack Wing RAO Director Chief Jenny Pappas and Volunteers with 111th Attack Wing Deputy Commander LT Col Daryl E. Newhart at the 87thHost RAO luncheon at JB McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst.

Note #3: This is the final 111th Attack Wing Retirees Activities Office 2018 Newsletter for this year. Please have a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year. God Bless Everyone.

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Reporting the Death of a Military Retiree or Annuitant

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) has prepared this contact sheet to assist you in reporting the death of a military retiree or annuitant. The information provided is meant to serve as a general guide.

You may notify using the DFAS Website at www.dfas.mil utilizing the Forms tab on the top left side and selecting the Fast Forms Online and the form under the Report a Retiree's Death by clicking on the DFAS 9221 Notification of Death. Complete the required fields and then submit. You may also utilize the askDFAS and New Online Form to Report the Death of a Retiree. You can now use our convenient online form to report the death of a retiree at <https://go.usa.gov/xnzQ9>.

- Notify DFAS at (800) 321-1080. Please have the decedent's Social Security Number (SSN) and the date of death when you call. We ask that you send one photocopy of a death certificate which indicates the cause of death. Please send it to:

For retirees	For annuitants
Address: Defense Finance and Accounting Service U.S. Military Retired Pay 8899 E 56 th Street Indianapolis, IN 46249-1200	Address: Defense Finance and Accounting Service U.S. Military Annuitant Pay 8899 E 56 th Street Indianapolis, IN 46249-1200
Fax: (800) 469-6559	Fax: (800) 982-8459

We will take steps to suspend the pay account to prevent any overpayments. If the decedent was a retiree enrolled in the Survivor Benefit Plan and/or the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan (RSFPP), we will take additional steps to initiate pay-accounts for eligible survivors.

Designated beneficiaries of retirees should expect a Standard Form 1174 (SF-1174) and, if applicable, SBP/RSFPP-related forms in the mail within seven to ten business days of reporting the death. You may also locate the form on the DFAS Website, specifically at <http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms.html> if you need assistance please contact us at (800) 321-1080.

- **Notify the Social Security Administration (SSA) at (800) 772-1213.**
- **Notify the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) at (800) 538-9552.**
- **If the member was receiving disability compensation or Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DIC), notify the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) at (800) 827-1000 press 1 and then Option 6.**
- **If the member was a civil servant or retired civil servant, notify the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) toll-free at (888) 767-6738 Option 4.**
- **If the member enrolled in DFA-sponsored insurance such as National Service Life Insurance (NSLI) or Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI), notify them at (800) 669-8477.**

If you live near a military installation you may be able to receive help with administrative matters from a Casual Assistance Officer (CAO) or Retired Activities/Affairs Office (RAO). Please note that these services are not available at all military installations.

Below are some additional toll-free numbers you may find helpful, if applicable:

Armed Forces Benefit Association (AFBA) -----	(800) 776-2322
Army & Air Force Mutual Aid Association (AAFMAA) -----	(800) 522-5221
Military Benefit Association (MBA) -----	(800) 336-0100
Navy Mutual Aid Association (NMAA) -----	(800) 628-6011
Officers Benefit Association -----	(800) 736-7311
Uniformed Services Benefit Association -----	(800) 368-7021

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DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY
7700 ARLINGTON BLVD
FALLS CHURCH VA 22042



November 2018

Dear Retiree:

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program, provided through Delta Dental® ENDS DECEMBER 31, 2018!

You are receiving this letter because you are currently enrolled in the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program, provided through Delta Dental. You **MUST** take action if you want to have dental insurance on January 1, 2019. You and your eligible family members can enroll in the **Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP)**. If you want FEDVIP dental coverage, you must enroll during the Federal Benefits Open Season, which runs from November 12 to December 10, 2018. Your FEDVIP coverage will begin on January 1, 2019. **If you do not enroll during the Federal Benefits Open Season, you will not have federal dental insurance coverage for calendar year 2019**, unless you experience a FEDVIP qualifying life event, such as marriage.

Go to **BENEFEDS.com** to compare dental plans. Or call any of the carriers listed below to request a detailed brochure on coverage or if you have questions. Choose a dental plan from one of the ten FEDVIP dental carriers:

Aetna Dental®	1-877-459-6604	GEHA®	1-877-434-2336
Delta Dental®	1-855-410-3255	Humana®	1-877-692-2468
Dominion Dental®	1-855-836-6337	MetLife®	1-888-865-6854
EmblemHealth®	1-800-624-2414	Triple-S Salud®	1-800-716-6081
FEP BlueDental®	1-855-504-2583	United Concordia Dental®	1-877-394-8224

You and your eligible family members can also enroll in vision insurance through FEDVIP. Individuals must be enrolled in a TRICARE health plan offering comprehensive civilian care coverage (private sector purchased care) to be eligible for FEDVIP vision. Individuals enrolled in the Transitional Assistance Management Program, TRICARE Young Adult, or the Continued Health Care Benefit Program are not eligible for FEDVIP vision coverage. These plans are excluded by law.

Go to **BENEFEDS.com** to compare vision plans. Or call any of the carriers listed below to request their detailed brochure on vision coverage or if you have questions. Choose a vision plan from one of the four FEDVIP vision carriers:

Aetna Vision®	1-877-459-6604	United Healthcare Vision®	1-866-249-1999
FEP BlueVision®	1-888-550-2583	Vision Service Plan (VSP) Vision Care®	1-800-807-0764

Online resources are available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

You can compare plans and rates, view and download carrier brochures, and enroll in FEDVIP dental and/or vision coverage at **BENEFEDS.com** during Federal Benefits Open Season. The website is accessible 24/7 from computers, cell phones, and tablets. **BENEFEDS.com** provides the tools and information you need to help you choose the best plan that fits your needs.

In addition, the BENEFEDS team can help with any enrollment questions you may have. Representatives are available during Federal Benefits Open Season, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST, at 1-877-888-FEDS (1-877-888-3337); TTY 1-877-889-5680. **Enrollment agents cannot recommend a plan or discuss benefits.**

We know it is important to choose a plan that is right for you and your family. **For questions related to plan coverage details, waiting periods, in-progress treatment, or to check if your dentist or optical specialist participates in FEDVIP, contact the dental or vision carriers listed on this letter.**

You must enroll between **November 12 and December 10, 2018 to have dental and/or vision coverage beginning January 1, 2019**. Don't miss out on the opportunity to have dental and vision coverage in 2019.

Sincerely,

TRICARE Health Plan
Defense Health Agency