

2022 | August



THE BORDER BULLETIN

EL PASO CHAPTER OF MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Nationally Ranked Five-Star Chapter • MOAA Affiliate from January 23, 1956 • Our 66th Year

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Western Skies

El Paso, Texas 79924

Photo by:

William Oseles

EL PASO CHAPTER NATIONAL AWARDS

Levels of Excellence

Runner-up 2000 and 2001

Five-Star Chapter 2001 thru 2018
Communications Award Print Newsletter

Five Star 2015, 2016, 2018, thru 2020
Four Star 2017

Winner 2004, 2012, 2013 and 2014
Runner-up 2008 thru 2011

Communications Award Print Legislative Coverage

Winner 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2012
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Runner-up 2009 and 2014

INPUT Deadline for October 2022 Border Bulletin 27 August

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August 2022• Vol 66 No 4

The Border Bulletin is the Official publication of the

El Paso Chapter of

The Military Officers Association of America

P.O. Box 6144, Fort Bliss, TX 79906-0144.

This bulletin is published Bi-monthly. Subscription is included in the annual dues of \$20.00.

Statement of Publication

The Border Bulletin is the newsletter of the El Paso Chapter, Military Officers Association of America. It is published bi-monthly, even months, to inform the membership of issues

and activities of interest to all. elpaso-moaa.org is a non-profit entity within the State

of Texas organized to represent the membership and to support the activities of the Texas Council of Chapters and MOAA National. Advertising

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Report a Retiree Death

Monday – Friday

0730 – 1700

915-568-5207

After Hours (Installation)

915-569-6950/6951

Or visit:

<https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary>



President's Message

Mike Hester

I hope everyone had a fantastic 4th of July and Independence Day! By the time you read this we should be through the hottest months of summer and getting ready for the 12 August lunch and the next time we meet after that will be in the fall for our October lunch!

So only a few more months of crazy hot weather and fall will be here before you know it.

Not much to report in these dog days of summer. As far as Fort Bliss goes, we will welcome a new Commanding General (CG) named Major General Eisenhower. The change of command between him and the current CG Major General Sean Bernabe is scheduled for July 13th. With COVID behind us and a new command team at Ft Bliss I am hoping that MOAA can gain some traction on post this fall. Time will tell. Perhaps we can get the new CG to talk at one of our lunches!

A quick Warning Order for retirees. I have been appointed to chair the FT Bliss retirement council and I am looking for input for the quickly upcoming Retirement Appreciation Day (RAD) scheduled for October. If you have any ideas about the type of information you want to receive during that day please let me know so we can arrange the right speakers in the right order. As always you can contact me any time at mikehester65@gmail.com. I want to see if any of our members are interesting in having MOAA sponsor any events for the RAD. Let me know what you think!

Our next lunch is Saturday August 13th and I am hoping we have a great turnout! Mark your calendar, grab your buddy/spouse/friend, and RSVP soon for the fun and comradery of the MOAA lunch!

I hope everyone is doing well this summer and I look forward to seeing you at the August Lunch Meeting!

See you on the high ground! Proud to serve!

Mike Hester

Retiree and Annuitant Pay Dates for 2022

Entitlement Month	Retiree Pay Date	Annuitant Pay Date
January 2022	February 1, 2022	February 1, 2022
February 2022	March 1, 2022	March 1, 2022
March 2022	April 1, 2022	April 1, 2022
April 2022	April 29, 2022	May 2, 2022
May 2022	June 1, 2022	June 1, 2022
June 2022	July 1, 2022	July 1, 2022
July 2022	August 1, 2022	August 1, 2022
August 2022	September 1, 2022	September 1, 2022
September 2022	September 30, 2022	October 3, 2022
October 2022	November 1, 2022	November 1, 2022
November 2022	December 1, 2022	December 1, 2022
December 2022	December 30, 2022	January 3, 2023



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AUGUST GUEST SPEAKER

Adair Margo



Adair Margo chaired the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities during the two-term presidency of George W. Bush (2000-2008). She joined First Lady Laura Bush in Paris, France for the United States' re-entry into UNESCO and was appointed by Secretary of State, Colin Powell, to the US National Commission of for UNESCO. She received the US Presidential Citizens Medal in 2007 from George W. Bush and the Mexican Aguila Azteca in 2008 from Felipe Calderon for using arts and culture to strengthen relationships between the United States and other nations, beginning with Mexico. She also was recognized as the cultural ambassador of Juarez by Mayor Armando Cabada in 2019 and as Promotora del Ano at Mexico's Tanguis Turistica in 2021 by Manuel Lopez Obrador.

She owned Adair Margo Gallery from 1985-2010 in El Paso, Texas, exhibiting over 400 artists from 12 countries. She became especially devoted to Tom Lea, founding the Tom Lea Institute in 2009 and establishing the Tom Lea Trail, which connects the histories of 19 communities in Texas, New Mexico, and Chihuahua through Tom Lea's art and writing - the first bi-national artist-named trail of its kind in the world. She has authored or contributed to seven books, including the award-winning *Tom Lea, An Oral History* (1995) and *Jose Cisneros, Immigrant Artist* (2006), published by Texas Western Press.

A former First Lady of El Paso, she earned her B.A. in Art History from Vanderbilt University; studied Italian and Renaissance art with Syracuse University in Florence, Italy; and completed her M.A. in Art History from New Mexico State University. She is married to The Honorable Dee Margo and has three children and nine grandchildren. She teaches and writes on the arts, culture and history of the U.S./Mexico border.





Pharmacy Hours

Short notice changes to Pharmacy Operation Hours due to Command approved hospital activities will be posted to the WBAMC Facebook Page.

<https://www.facebook.com/WBAMC1>

Closed on federal

Hospital

Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Main Pharmacy - West Clinic Building 1st Floor

18511 Highlander Medics St, El Paso, TX 79918,

(for hospital discharge only)

915-742-9490

Mendoza

Monday - Friday 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Every Third Thursday 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

11335 SSG Sims St, Fort Bliss, TX 79918,

915-742-1400

Freedom Crossing

Monday - Friday 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

1611 Haan Rd, Fort Bliss, TX 79906

915-742-9017

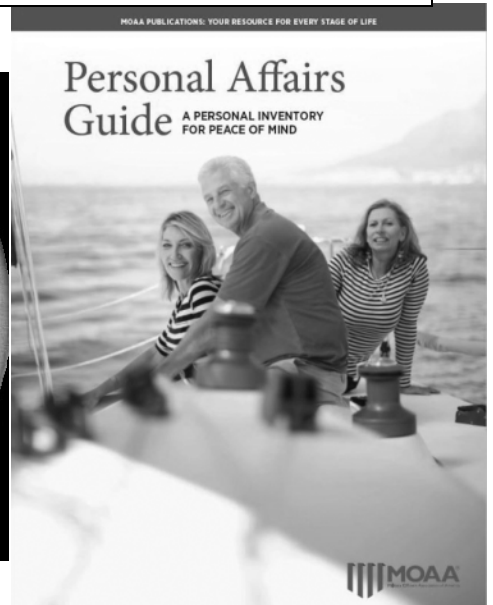
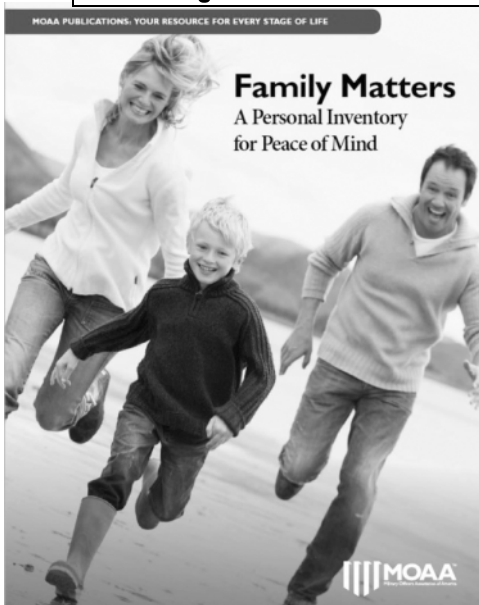
Note: If a high volume of patients needing to be serviced for the day and not enough staff is available, the kiosk may be shut down early in order to ensure all patients that have a ticket can be serviced for the day.

East Bliss Closed

SFMC Closed

Rio Bravo Closed

Desert Sage Closed



<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/moaa-publications/moaa-publications/>



CHAPLAINS CORNER MRS CONNIE SULLIVAN

Oh, My Dear Members, as we all know, reaching the age of being a Senior Citizen, has not often been an easy journey. We encounter so many challenges that sometimes it's difficult to keep our faiths strong, especially if we are women and widows. Men are not as easily taken advantage of as we ladies are. For example, and I know some of you have gone through this type

of situation before,
the hiring of people to do repair work in our homes and yards.

A few months ago, I did something that I told myself that I was not going to do, and that is hiring someone to paint the floor of my front porch.

The man I hired, to say the least, put the wrong color of paint instead of what I had ordered, the wrong type, which was paint for inside instead of outside. He would come to work late or some times would not even show up at all, and the list goes on.

I finally let him go, even though he had asked me for another opportunity, but I could not let him stay because he had already done too many things wrong working on my house.

It took me a while to reach that decision because I felt sorry for him since he has six children. And, yes, I did have the porch fixed and had to pay again.

So relying on God to guide us to do the right thing, can give us peace of mind and can free us of guilt since we are striving to do what is right in the eyes of our Heavenly King.



COVID-19 Rapid Tests Now Available



Junior Enlisted Family Center

• Food Pantry • No-Cost Thrift Store • Baby Project • Soldiers Kits • Volunteering

Located on the corner of Sheridan and Cassidy at
2004 Sheridan Rd. Fort Bliss, TX



Donations

Duration Varies

JEFC Donations: Clothing, Shoes, Accessories, Toys, Nursing, Maintenance, Media, Electronics, Seasonal, Uniforms, Household, Furniture, Appliances, Sports Gear, Hygiene, Military Gear, Crafts and Books.

Food Pantry Donations: Non Perishable foods such as – Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruits, Bagged Grains, One box meals, Canned Protein, Breakfast items and Snacks.

Baby Project: Baby Wipes, Diapers, Baby Food, Baby Cereal and Formula.

Monetary Donations: Give online: www.asymca.org/donate-el-paso Donate over the phone: (915) 263-7164

Mail a check: 7060 Comington St. El Paso, TX 79930

Volunteering at the JEFC

Duration Varies

Offering active duty service members, military spouses and Fort Bliss Youth a positive opportunity to earn volunteer hours in their community. Volunteers can earn up to 52 hours a month during business hours to go towards school credit, promotion points or resumes.

Volunteer Requirements: - Current Physical - Must be registered in Amilia.

Ages 17 and under must be accompanied by parent or legal guardian.

To register visit: www.asymca.org/el-paso-sign-in

Baby Project

Duration Varies • Free to military E6 and below

Junior Enlisted military families in need are allowed one bundle of diapers, baby wipes and up to 10 baby food items per week during hours of operation while supplies lasts.

Hours of Operation: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:30am - 2:30pm

Location: 2004 Sheridan Rd. Fort Bliss, TX

Emergency Food Pantry

Duration Varies

Military families in need can pick up a voucher for further assistance while visiting ACS, which can then be redeemed at our JEFC during our hours of operation.

Hours of Operation: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and 3rd Saturday of the month from 10:30am - 2:30pm

Location: 2004 Sheridan Rd. Fort Bliss, TX

Army Community Services 2494 Ricker Road 915-568-0768

Shopping

Duration Varies • Free to military E6 and below

Free new and gently used items to Junior Enlisted E6 and below military families in need.

-Clothing, Shoes, Accessories, Toys, Nursing, Maintenance, Media, Electronics, Seasonal, Uniforms, Household, Furniture, Appliances, Sports Gear, Baby items, Hygiene, Military Gear, Crafts and Books.

Hours of Operation: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and 3rd Saturday from 10:30am - 2:30pm

To register visit: www.asymca.org/el-paso-sign-in



elpasomoaa.org

**El Paso Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
PO Box 6144
Fort Bliss, TX 79906-0144**

BASIC MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT

☒ YES! Sign me up as a **FREE BASIC MOAA** Member

Name _____

Branch of Service _____ Rank _____

☐ Retired ☐ Active ☐ Former

☐ Reserve ☐ National Guard ☐ Auxiliary*

☐ Graduation Year (Cadet/Midshipmen) _____

Email Address** _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

To ensure deliverability of MOAA communications, please provide a personal email without a ".mil" domain if available.

We value your privacy. MOAA does not rent or sell its members' emails to third parties. If you include your email address, you will receive e-communications from MOAA as a member benefit. Visit www.moaa.org/email for details.

Date of Birth _____

Spouse Name _____

Your spouse has access to all of your MOAA member benefits.

*Surviving spouse of eligible officer

**Email address required for BASIC Membership

or

Chapter MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT

☒ YES! Sign me up as an El Paso Chapter Member

Name _____

Branch of Service _____ Rank _____

☐ Retired ☐ Active ☐ Former

☐ Reserve ☐ National Guard ☐ Auxiliary*

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Date of Birth _____

Spouse Name _____

Your spouse has access to all of your MOAA member benefits.

☐ One-Year Hard Copy Membership \$20

☐ One-Year Electronic Membership \$15

☐ Multi-Year Memberships Contact Membership Chair

*Surviving spouse of eligible officer

Chapter Name _____

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Dues to MOAA are not deductible as a charitable contribution for federal tax purposes.

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Add your own voice to the fight.





June
2022 Luncheon





elpasomoaa.org

El Paso Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
PO Box 6144
Fort Bliss, TX 79906-0144

August 2022 Membership Meeting & Lunch

The General George V. Underwood, Jr. Golf Course

3200 Coe Ave., El Paso, TX 79916

Date: Saturday, 13 August 2022

Time: 1130 -1400

Guest Speaker:

Adair Margo

Founder, Tom Lea Institute

Menu

Steak Tampiquena with Sautéed Black Almandine

Tossed Green Salad with Dressing

Roll & Butter

Coffee, Iced Tea and Water

MOAA Cake

Dress: Casual

Cost: \$20/person



Lunch Treasurer: treasurer@elpasomoaa.org

Membership or email queries: membership@elpasomoaa.org **Mail To: El Paso Chapter MOAA,
Attn.: Treasurer, PO Box 6144, Fort Bliss, TX 79906-0144**

Please fill in this acceptance slip, and return to the Treasurer by Wednesday, 10 August 2022 with a check for \$20 per person, the cost of the luncheon. **Late Reservations**, call Bob Pitt, 915-533-5111 or Dave Powell, 915-491-1272, by Noon, Thursday, August 11, and pay at the door.

Please print guest names clearly to ensure the correct spelling on the registration listing.

I will / will not attend the lunch and there will be _____ attendees in my party.

My check for \$ _____ (\$20.00 per person) made payable to the "El Paso Chapter" is enclosed.

Name of Member: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Name(s) of Guests: _____

Name(s) of Guests: _____



Doc's Corner

Daniel Washburn, M.D.

It is estimated that up to 70% of people in the U.S. have an eye problem called refractive error that requires the use of a corrective lens to see well. When light rays enter the eye, they are bent by the cornea and lens in the front of the eye to a focus point on the retina in the back of the eye so we can see clearly. However, with refractive error, the focus point lands either in front of or behind the retina and therefore needs correction to move the focus point onto the retina for clear vision.

The three types of refractive error are near-sightedness (myopia), far-sightedness (hyperopia) and astigmatism. All are corrected with lenses.

Although eyeglasses are the most common way to correct refractive error, there are also other options. For young people, Lasik surgery uses a laser to reshape the cornea on the front surface of the eye to permanently treat refractive error so a person can then see clearly without glasses. Cataract surgery also treats refractive error. Although some people still need glasses after cataract surgery, many are much less dependent on their glasses or can even get by without glasses.

Contact lenses are another option for treating refractive error. Most contacts just correct distance vision. However, there are options for also treating near vision. A multifocal lens corrects near and distance vision. Monovision also corrects near and far. This is when the contact lens in one eye is set for distance vision and the other eye is set for near, which then frees a person from any type of glasses.

Again, the most common way to treat refractive error is with eyeglasses. Glasses can be single vision for distance, single vision reading glasses or a combination of distance at the top of the lens and bifocal at the bottom of the lens for up close. The bifocal can be a no line progressive or a lined bifocal. Some people like the cosmetic appearance of a no line bifocal but they are often a little harder to get things into focus with. If prescription lenses for distance vision are not needed, but you need help up close, over-the-counter readers are almost always the best option. They are much less expensive than prescription reading glasses and do the same thing.

Daniel Washburn, M.D.
Former Chief Eye Surgeon at WBAMC



Auxiliary
MRS CONNIE SULLIVAN

Auxiliary

My Dear Members, now more than ever, because of the Pandemic of Covid and other viruses, plus infectious diseases and ailments that we can contract, it is extremely important that we really try hard to take care of our selves.

There are some people that have become very ill not paying attention to or not being aware of the symptoms they are experiencing of bodily disorders. For example, Diabetes can cause tremendous damage to the body if not attended to as soon as possible. It is vital and necessary, to the maintenance of life, to get help with promptness so it does not become detrimental or harmful to our bodies.

Heart diseases can also be very dangerous if they are not taken care of in a prompt manner. There are so many medical conditions that can affect our well beings and not only our bodies but also our mental state of minds.

Being aware of what we are experiencing, if it is in a negative fashion, we must ask for help immediately since it would be the best way to prevent a future devastating situation.

In our age group, taking precautions is a better avenue to good health. We all know that there are many places where we can get our needs met. We can call the hospitals and inquire what departments we can go to for a particular treatment or health problem, that is if we don't have a health provider already. If it is an emergency, we all know of course, the 911 number.

Even with the knowledge that we have, when it comes to a dire circumstance, we can very easily get into a panic or get so stressed out that we forget what we need to do. So having a plan for a course of action with families and or friends would be a life saving blessing.

For believers, remembering that God is there for us to help us in our time of need, can also be comforting looking forward that every thing will be alright.

May the God of love and peace continue to be with us protecting us and keeping us safe.



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3330 Rinconada Blvd. • Suite 5 • Las cruces, NM 88011 • 575-323-8077



LEGISLATIVE CORNER DAVID GARCIA

GREETING TO ALL,

I would like to thank all the members for all your support...There great news hopefully our cost of living will be a good you better than last years and Also, the senate past the Pact Act and hopefully soon it will become law...Let's continue to contact our elective representatives for their support...God Bless

Where Could Your COLA Land in 2023?

APRIL 27, 2022

The economic indicator responsible for setting the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for military retirees, disabled veterans, Social Security recipients, and others has edged even closer to record-setting territory.

Frequent visitors to [MOAA's COLA Watch page](#) won't be surprised by this trend, but new figures point to an even larger adjustment in 2023 to combat ongoing inflation. The March Consumer Price Index for Urban and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), a figure released in April, was 1.52% higher than the February number. It's the largest February-to-March jump for CPI-W since at least 1978, when the statistic underwent a major revision and name change.

While the figures determining the annual COLA won't be set until later in the year – a walkthrough on the math is available at [MOAA.org/colawatch](#) – predictions point to a major uptick from last year's 5.9% COLA. The Senior Citizens League, a nonpartisan advocacy group, predicted an 8.9% 2023 COLA increase based on the March data. That's up from the group's 7.6% estimate the previous month.

PACT Act, Offering Comprehensive Toxic Exposure Reform, Clears Major Senate Hurdle

JUNE 07, 2022

Decades of grassroots work to reform the VA's practices regarding toxic exposure benefits, months of bipartisan negotiation, and a flurry of late advocacy efforts by MOAA and dozens of other groups have resulted in the largest step forward yet on the path to helping millions of underserved veterans. The Senate voted 86-12 on June 7 to invoke cloture on the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022, a procedural move allowing for a full Senate vote expected in the coming days. If a majority of senators back the bill in that vote, it will return to the House, where an earlier version passed 256-174 in March.

'Total Team Effort': Toxic Exposure Reform Bill Passes Senate, Heads Back to House

JUNE 16, 2022

The Senate voted 84-14 on June 16 to pass the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022, sending the bill back to the House for consideration.

The House previously passed a version of the omnibus toxic exposure reform legislation 256-174. While the bill is expected to clear the chamber again, MOAA is asking its members and others to reach out to their representatives and secure their support for expanding VA care to more than 3.5 million veterans, adding 23 ailments to the list of those connected to toxic exposure, funding dozens of new VA facilities in 19 states, and improving toxic exposure-related screening, research, and claims processing.

"This was a total team effort, from the legislative staffs in both chambers to the dozens of advocacy groups on board to the grassroots work put in by thousands of MOAA members," said Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, USAF (Ret), MOAA president and CEO. "Everyone played a role in this success, but we're not done yet – MOAA and our partners will see this through not just the president's signature, but through the implementation process so critical to ensure the earned benefits of millions of veterans."

MOAA has supported multiple attempts at much-needed comprehensive toxic exposure reform, with efforts picking up in recent years. A coalition formed behind the current legislation, to include veterans groups like the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Wounded Warrior Project, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Burn Pits 360, AMVETS, Reserve Organization of America, and Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors; veterans advocate Jon Stewart; and members of Congress from both parties, including Sen. Jon Tester (D-Mont.), chair of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and Sen. Jerry Moran (R-Kan.), the committee's ranking member. "There's absolutely no reason, none, this bill should be a Republican bill or a Democrat bill," Moran said at a June 7 press event held prior to the Senate's initial cloture vote.

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.

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.

New Members

Mr. Jorge Aquilar

SSG Darrett Caskey

Renewals

MAJ Dexter Lyerly

LTC Daniel Schulte

COL James Sprouse

COL Benjamin Narbuth

COL Michael Digennaro

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Mrs. Connie Sullivan

MG Edward Greer

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.

((Continued next page))



**Support
El Paso MOAA
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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 benefits, 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 non-compliance. 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.

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



Termination of Chapter Life Memberships



A vote at the February 2022 Membership Meeting terminated chapter life memberships. LTC (R) Bill Moore will adjust life member renewal dates in the member database to 1 June 2022. Invoices (MEMB— \$20/yr. or MEMB-E— \$15/yr.) will be mailed in early May 2022.

If you have questions, please contact the undersigned.

Never Stop Serving and Stay Safe!

Very Respectfully,

Mike Hester

Colonel, US Army, Retired

President, El Paso Chapter, MOAA

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It suffice me to say, that to know of such a wonderful dedicated Patriot of our country is what has made the United States of America great and powerful. His life is incredibly beautiful, full of love of God, family and country. He is a hero to be remembered as an example to all of us that have crossed his path. It is evident that God has chosen him as one of the most courageous and best Military Officers in this life.

The Border Bulletin

Is the print newsletter of the
El Paso Chapter, Military Officers Association of America
(MOAA)

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