



A MOBILIZATION CULTURE

By LT Richard J. Lavigne, CG-1311

Since 1973, when the first involuntary recall of 134 Coast Guard reservists was authorized to support flood response operations in the Midwest, the Coast Guard Reserve has mobilized with increasing frequency. These mobilizations, whether in support of the Global War on Terror (GWOT) or in response to a natural disaster, are an essential mechanism to provide adequate numbers of trained personnel to an operational commander. The Reserve Component must be ready at any time to answer the call. Because no one can predict the future, it is impossible to forecast the number of times a reservist may be involuntarily called to active duty over the course of a career.

There are two main authorities in the U.S. Code, Title 10 and Title 14, under which Coast Guard Reservists may be involuntarily or voluntarily mobilized. There are three key differences between Title 10 and Title 14: who can initiate the recall, what the recall is in response to and the limitations on how long a reservist can be recalled to active duty.

TITLE 10

Title 10 of the U.S. Code generally governs the Department of Defense (DOD) and contains provisions that authorize the president to call up members of the Reserve Components, including the Coast Guard Reserve and the National Guard for defense contingencies. The president declared a National Emergency following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, documented in Presidential Proclamation No. 7463. That proclamation has been extended every year since 2001 allowing the involuntary recall of military members in support of OPERATION NOBLE EAGLE, OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM and OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. Activation under this type of orders are considered "contingency orders" and issued under the authority of 10 USC 12302 (involuntary) or 10 USC 12301(d) (voluntary). These orders are often referred to as "Title 10" orders. Members who were activated in support of these operations are entitled to contingency benefits including the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607 GI Bill). In order to more closely align with DOD policy, involuntary mobilization orders will not generally exceed 12 months.

TITLE 14

The Secretary of Homeland Security under section 712 of Title 14 of the U.S. Code, which governs the Coast Guard, can also involuntarily mobilize members of the Coast Guard Reserve. That provision of the law authorizes the Secretary to involuntarily recall reservists in anticipation of, or in response to domestic emergencies, both natural and man-made. This authority is typically utilized for hurricane response and other short-term emergencies. Duty on Title 14 shall not exceed 60 days per four-month period or 120 days per two-year period. Even though these orders are involuntary, they are not considered "contingency orders" and carry no special entitlements.

Being an operational Reserve requires a workforce that is fully trained, properly equipped and ready to serve when and wherever needed. So what can you do? Be personally ready to mobilize, take pride in your service and remain Semper Paratus.

Ed's note: LT Lavigne serves in the Office of Reserve Affairs (CG-1311) as the Readiness/Mobilization Manager. A former deputy sheriff for Hillsborough County, Fla., Lavigne was named the national recipient of the CGR's Outstanding Junior Officer in 2004. He can be reached at 202-475-5449, Richard.J.Lavigne2@uscg.mil.

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FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CG-131//
TO ALCOAST BT
UNCLAS //N03061//
ALCOAST 381/07
COMDTNOTE 3061

SUBJ: CHANGES TO RESERVE MOBILIZATION POLICY

A. COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC 101701Z JUN 03 (NOTAL)

B. G-WTR LTR 3060 OF 2 OCT 2001 (NOTAL)

1. THIS MESSAGE ANNOUNCES CHANGES IN RESERVE MOBILIZATION POLICIES OF REFS A AND B. THIS MESSAGE SETS NEW EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DURATION OF INVOLUNTARY CALLS TO ACTIVE DUTY ORDERED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S. CODE (USC). THIS POLICY IS EFFECTIVE FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE READY RESERVE (SELECTED RESERVE AND IRR). NOTE: THIS POLICY DOES NOT AFFECT INVOLUNTARY CALLS TO ACTIVE DUTY ORDERED UNDER 14 USC 712 (60 DAYS IN A 4 MONTH PERIOD AND 120 DAYS IN A 2 YEAR PERIOD). MEMBERS OF THE READY RESERVE REMAIN SUBJECT TO INVOLUNTARY RECALL UNDER 14 USC 712 AT ALL TIMES.

2. POLICY. SINCE 2001, COAST GUARD RESERVISTS HAVE PERFORMED MORE ACTIVE DUTY THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE WORLD WAR II. THE RESERVE FORCE HAS PERFORMED SUPERBLY DURING A CHALLENGING PERIOD PROVIDING UNPRECEDENTED SUPPORT FOR THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR. MOBILIZATION HAS BECOME AN ESSENTIAL MECHANISM TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE NUMBERS OF TRAINED PERSONNEL TO OPERATIONAL COMMANDERS. TO EFFECTIVELY MANAGE OUR OPERATIONAL RESERVE, AND TO MORE CLOSELY ALIGN WITH OUR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COUNTERPARTS, THE FOLLOWING POLICIES APPLY WHEN INVOLUNTARY ACTIVE DUTY ORDERS ARE ISSUED UNDER TITLE 10.

A. TITLE 10 PRESCRIBES THE MAXIMUM DURATION OF ANY INVOLUNTARY CALL TO ACTIVE DUTY UNDER A VARIETY OF SCENARIOS (10 USC 12301, 12302 AND 12304). THE PRACTICE OF LIMITING INVOLUNTARY RECALLS UNDER TITLE 10 TO THE CUMULATIVE TIME SERVED, INCLUDING MULTIPLE DEPLOYMENTS, UNDER A SINGLE EXECUTIVE ORDER IS CANCELLED. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, AN INVOLUNTARY CALL TO ACTIVE DUTY UNDER 10 USC 12302 FOR THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR MAY NOT EXCEED 24 CONSECUTIVE MONTHS PER SET OF ORDERS. CONSIDERATION OF PREVIOUS ACTIVATIONS UNDER TITLE 10 WILL BE BALANCED AGAINST THE NEEDS OF THE SERVICE FOR SUBSEQUENT INVOLUNTARY RECALLS.

B. RESERVISTS INVOLUNTARILY CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY WILL TYPICALLY SERVE NO MORE THAN 12 MONTHS UNDER A SET OF INVOLUNTARY ACTIVE DUTY ORDERS. URGENT SERVICE NEED IDENTIFIED BY OPERATIONAL COMMANDERS COULD RESULT IN EXTENSION OF ORDERS, CONSISTENT WITH THE TIME LIMITS PROVIDED BY TITLE 10. HOWEVER, THE EXTENSION OF INVOLUNTARY ORDERS BEYOND 12 MONTHS TO ADDRESS THIS URGENT SERVICE NEED MUST BE APPROVED BY THE HEADQUARTERS OFFICE OF RESERVE AFFAIRS COMDT (CG-131).

C. THE NATURE OF OCONUS SERVICE IMPOSES TWO ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS ON RESERVISTS WHO ARE INVOLUNTARILY CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY AND DEPLOYED OVERSEAS.

(1) WHILE THE COAST GUARD RETAINS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADMINISTERING THE ROTATION OF PERSONNEL IN AND OUT OF THEATER, MISSION REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDER ULTIMATELY SHAPE THE DURATION OF DEPLOYMENTS.

(2) OCONUS DUTY TYPICALLY REQUIRES SPECIALIZED UNIT LEVEL PRE- DEPLOYMENT TRAINING. IT ALSO PLACES MEMBERS IN A POSITION OF ACCRUING LEAVE WITH LITTLE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE LEAVE. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, TIME PERIODS THAT COVER UNIT PRE-DEPLOYMENT TRAINING AND POST-DEPLOYMENT LEAVE ARE SERVED IN ADDITION TO THE 12 MONTH BOOTS ON THE GROUND POLICY LIMIT. INVOLUNTARY RECALL ORDERS MUST SPECIFY THE DATES FOR UNIT TRAINING AND FOR POST-DEPLOYMENT LEAVE PERIODS.

D. FORCE OPTIMIZATION AND TRAINING STAFFS (FOTS) BALANCE THE NEED TO ENHANCE READINESS OF THE RESERVE FORCE WITH THE NEED TO SUPPORT ONGOING OPERATIONS. FOTS MUST CONSIDER INVOLUNTARILY RECALLING RESERVISTS WHO HAVE NEVER BEEN MOBILIZED BEFORE EXTENDING AN INVOLUNTARY OR VOLUNTARY CALL TO ACTIVE DUTY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY SERVED.

E. MEMBERS WHO HAVE SERVED MORE THAN THREE MONTHS OF INVOLUNTARY ACTIVE DUTY UNDER TITLE 10 MAY PARTICIPATE IN, BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED TO, RESUME IDT DRILLS IN THE FIRST 60 CALENDAR DAYS FOLLOWING THEIR RELEASE FROM INVOLUNTARY ACTIVE DUTY (RELAD). DEMOBILIZED RESERVISTS MUST RESUME IDT DRILLS WITHIN 90 DAYS OF THEIR RELAD. DEMOBILIZED MEMBERS MAY PARTICIPATE IN, BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED TO PERFORM, ADT-AT IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS FOLLOWING RELEASE FROM INVOLUNTARY TITLE 10 ACTIVE DUTY. NOTE: WHILE THIS POLICY RELAXES PARTICIPATION STANDARDS FOR DEMOBILIZING RESERVISTS, NOTHING IN THIS POLICY RELIEVES MEMBERS OF THE REQUIREMENT TO EARN 50 POINTS IN AN ANNIVERSARY YEAR. MEMBERS ARE STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR EARNING 50 RETIREMENT POINTS IN ORDER TO BE CREDITED WITH A SATISFACTORY YEAR TOWARDS A RESERVE RETIREMENT (10 USC 12732).

3. FURTHER GUIDANCE AND A LIST OF FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT

[HTTP://WWW.USCG.MIL/RESERVE/RESOURCES/TITLE10.HTM](http://www.uscg.mil/reserve/resources/title10.htm)

4. INTERNET RELEASE AUTHORIZED.

5. RELEASED BY RDML CYNTHIA. A. COOGAN, DIRECTOR OF RESERVE AND TRAINING.

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Revised Coast Guard Title 10 Mobilization Policy

- Q:** I have been involuntarily recalled under Title 10 to a domestic port for military outload security duty. How long can I expect to be involuntarily mobilized?
- A:** Generally, involuntary recalls to active duty for service in the continental United States (CONUS) under Title 10 will be limited to 12 months, including pre-mobilization activity (e.g. medical screenings, required training, etc.) and post-mobilization leave. The duration of duty, however, may be extended beyond the 12-month limit based on urgent service needs as determined by the operational commander involved, typically the cognizant Area Commander.
- Q:** I am assigned to a port security unit. If my unit is slated for overseas duty, will I be involuntarily mobilized?
- A:** Yes. Members of port security units (PSUs), along with Coast Guard Reserve cells of the Navy's naval coastal warfare squadrons (NCWRONs), generally mobilize and deploy with their units.
- Q:** If I am involuntarily mobilized with my PSU under Title 10, and we are deployed outside the continental United States (OCONUS), how long can I expect to be on active duty?
- A:** Involuntary recalls under Title 10 for OCONUS duty will normally align with goal of not exceeding 12 months set for in CONUS duty. However, there are two key exceptions. First, OCONUS deployments are impacted by the requirements of the operational commander the Coast Guard is supporting. Although the Coast Guard retains responsibility for its rotation policies, operational requirements ultimately will drive deployment length and the corresponding period of involuntary duty. The second exception is that pre-deployment training, etc. and post-deployment leave do not count against the goal of a 12-month limit for reservists deployed OCONUS.
- Q:** What is the longest period I can be involuntarily mobilized under Title 10?
- A:** No involuntary call to active duty under Title 10 will exceed 24 months per set of orders, regardless of whether you serve in CONUS or overseas. Since 9/11, Coast Guard Reservists mobilized involuntarily have served an average of 238 days per set of orders.
- Q:** I have already served 24 months of cumulative involuntary duty under Title 10 since September 2001, but am currently not on active duty. I thought I was exempt from further involuntary mobilizations. Does this mean I can be involuntarily mobilized again under Title 10?
- A:** Yes. You may be involuntarily mobilized to the limits set for CONUS and OCONUS assignments, but never longer than 24 months on a single set of orders, regardless of whether you serve in the United States or overseas.
- Q:** What if I am mobilized for hurricane response in the United States ?
- A:** It is important to understand the different authorities under which Coast Guard Reservists may be involuntarily mobilized. Title 10 of the U.S. Code, which generally governs the Department of Defense, contains provisions that authorize the president to call up members of the Reserve Components (including the Coast Guard Reserve) and the National Guard for defense contingencies. Members of the Coast Guard Reserve also can be involuntarily mobilized by the Secretary of Homeland Security under section 712 of Title 14 of the U.S. Code, which governs the Coast Guard. That provision of the law authorizes the Secretary to involuntarily recall reservists in anticipation of, or in response to domestic contingencies, both natural and man-made. See related article on Page 5.
- Q:** So, how long can I be mobilized under Title 14?
- A:** Coast Guard Reservists involuntarily mobilized under Title 14 may serve up to 60 days in a four-month period and up to 120 days in a two-year period.
- Q:** I was released from active duty after a year of involuntary mobilization under Title 10. Does that affect the limitations on the duration of involuntary duty under Title 14?
- A:** No. Because Titles 10 and 14 are completely separate sections of the law, the duty limitations are also separate. In theory, that means an individual could be required to serve a full 24 months under Title 10 and the 60-day/120-day maximums under Title 14. However, we believe such a scenario is highly unlikely based on our post-9/11 experience.
- Q:** How often can I expect to be involuntarily called to active duty under Title 10?
- A:** Because we cannot forecast the future, it is impossible to forecast with certainty the number of times a reservist may be involuntarily called to active duty under Title 10 over the course of a career. The Coast Guard Reserve continues to work to answer that question, and our ongoing analysis takes into account emerging mission requirements and the Coast Guard's desire to provide maximum predictability for its Reserve members. We will promptly inform you once we have completed our analysis and have what we believe is an accurate, reliable answer to this question.
- Q:** How do involuntary mobilizations affect my obligation to perform Inactive Duty for Training (IDT) and annual Active Duty for Training (ADT-AT)?
- A:** Reservists who have served more than three months of involuntary active duty under Title 10 are not required to participate in IDT in the 60 calendar days following their release from involuntary active duty (RELAD). They are also not required to participate in ADT-AT for six months following their RELAD. It is important to note that while this policy reflects a waiver of IDT/ADT participation standards, a reservist must still earn a minimum of 50 retirement points in an anniversary year for that year to count toward a reserve retirement. Contact your Servicing Personnel Office or Force Optimization and Training Branch if you have questions.