

Pay & Personnel Newsletter

United States Coast Guard Pay & Personnel Center

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About the PPC Customer Newsletter: An authorized publication, the PPC Customer Newsletter is published under the direction of the U.S. Coast Guard Pay & Personnel Center. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of Homeland Security or the U.S. Coast Guard. The PPC Customer Newsletter shall not be considered an authority for any official action and is non-record material. The PPC Customer Newsletter is published quarterly. Articles are solicited from all readers.

How to submit an article: Articles for the PPC Customer Newsletter may be submitted by e-mail to [the Procedures & Development branch e-mail address "PPC-PF-PD"](#). All items approved for publication will immediately be posted on our [SPO news web page](#).

Publication schedule: The PPC Customer Newsletter is published monthly. Articles received prior to the last working day of the month will be included in the current issue.

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August End-Month Payroll Processing Complete

"Payslips" for 1 September 2016 pay are available in Direct Access. Report any discrepancies through the P&A Office (Admin) to the SPO. If SPOs cannot address or need assistance, the SPO will submit trouble ticket. Payslips can be accessed via the [Self-Service "View" menu](#). Refer to [this guide](#) for an overview of the new payslip. Payslips more than one year old to January 2015 can be accessed by following [this guide](#). Payslips/LESs issued prior to January 2015 are not available.

Note: Please see this [Frequently Asked Question \(FAQ\) entry](#) if you have any difficulty opening your payslip or other files in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) file format from within Direct Access.

The End-Month September pay date is 1 September 2016. Paydays are the 1st (end of month (EOM)) and the 15th (Mid-Month) of each month, or the business day preceding the 1st or the 15th if either should fall on a federal holiday, Saturday or Sunday. Members should not set up automated payments or assume funds will be available prior to published paydays. Members should verify with their financial institutions as to the actual time funds are available to their account. See [When is Payday?](#) for more information.

Next Manic Monday Mayhem is 26 September

Our next scheduled Manic Monday Mayhem will take place Monday, September 26 at 1300 CDT! Please put us on your calendar and tell everyone you know. Use the Manic Monday link to access the session: <https://dhsconnect.connectsolutions.com/manicmonday/>

We look forward to sharing our virtual space with all of you!

Karen S. Emmot
Supervisory Training Specialist

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SPO Consolidation Update

The SPO located at **Coast Guard Yard SPO (002190)** has been disestablished in DA. All records previously serviced by the Coast Guard Yard SPO have been moved to **Base NCR SPO (PS) (042822)**.

The SPO located at **SFLC (009488)** has been disestablished in DA. All records previously serviced by the SFLC SPO have been moved to **Base NCR SPO (PS) (042822)**.

The SPO located at **Sector Maryland-NCR (007299)** has been disestablished in DA. All records previously serviced by the Sector Maryland-NCR SPO have been moved to **Base NCR SPO (PS) (042822)**.

The SPO located at **Sector San Diego (007213)** has been disestablished in DA. All records previously serviced by the Sector San Diego SPO have been moved to **Base LA/LB (PS) (042632)**.

The SPO located at **Sector Buffalo (007519)** will be disestablished in DA on 26 August. All records previously service by the Sector Buffalo SPO have been moved to **Base Cleveland SPO (04291)**.

The SPO at **Sector Lower Mississippi River (007552)** has been disestablished in DA. All records previously serviced by Sector Lower Mississippi River have been transferred to the SPO at **Base Detachment St. Louis (042312)**.

Please refer to the [SPO Contact List page on our CG Portal site](#) for SPO contact information and previously issued updates.

Ensure all communications regarding the shifting of SPO records are routed through PSC-BOPS-R. The POC is Emily Jennings.

September Enlisted Advancements

[ALCGENL message 144/16](#) lists enlisted advancements authorized on 1 September 2016.

[ALCGRSV message 040/16](#) lists enlisted reserve advancements authorized on 1 September 2016.

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Patrol Forces Southwest Asia Solicitations for Assignment Year 2017

Today, the Coast Guard is the nation's oldest continuously serving sea-going service and conducts 11 different missions. One of those missions is Defense Readiness. Coast Guard Patrol Forces Southwest Asia (PATFORSWA) is at the forefront of the Defense Readiness mission. Today, PATFORSWA's mission is to train, organize, equip, support and deploy mission-ready Coast Guard Forces in support of U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM), U.S. Naval Forces Central Command (NAVCENT) and national security objectives.

Want to know more about the mission and history of PATFORSWA? Read this U.S. Coast Guard Coast Guard Compass Update:

[PATFORSWA: Guardians of the Arabian Gulf](#)

Coast Guard personnel interested in a demanding and challenging tour at PATFORSWA are encouraged to apply. The following messages provided detailed application procedures:

Link	Title
133/16	AY17 GM PATROL FORCES SOUTHWEST ASIA (PATFORSWA) SOLICITATION
132/16	AY17 OS PATROL FORCES SOUTHWEST ASIA (PATFORSWA) SOLICITATION
131/16	AY17 ET/IT PATROL FORCES SOUTHWEST ASIA (PATFORSWA) SOLICITATION
130/16	AY17 BM PATROL FORCES SOUTHWEST ASIA (PATFORSWA) SOLICITATION
129/16	AY17 DC PATROL FORCES SOUTHWEST ASIA (PATFORSWA) SOLICITATION
128/16	AY17 HS PATROL FORCES SOUTHWEST ASIA (PATFORSWA) SOLICITATION
127/16	AY17 FS PATROL FORCES SOUTHWEST ASIA (PATFORSWA) SOLICITATION
126/16	AY17 ME PATROL FORCES SOUTHWEST ASIA (PATFORSWA) SOLICITATION
125/16	AY17 MK PATROL FORCES SOUTHWEST ASIA (PATFORSWA) SOLICITATION
124/16	AY17 EM PATROL FORCES SOUTHWEST ASIA (PATFORSWA) SOLICITATION
123/16	AY17 YN PATROL FORCES SOUTHWEST ASIA (PATFORSWA) SOLICITATION
122/16	AY17 SK PATROL FORCES SOUTHWEST ASIA (PATFORSWA) SOLICITATION

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Coast Guard Medals, Awards, and Recognition Programs Guidance

[ALCGPSC message 088/16](#) announces the promulgation of two manuals, the [Coast Guard Military Medals and Awards Manual, COMDTINST M1650.25E](#) and the [Recognition Programs Manual, COMDTINST M1650.26](#). The Medals and Awards Manual, COMDTINST M1650.25D is cancelled.

Reserve Orders Extract Report Added

The Reserve Orders Extract Report identifies the status of all upcoming Reserve Orders within a DXR. It is recommended that Units/SPOs run this report at least once a week to see which orders require action. The following user roles have access to this report:

- CGHRS
- CGHRSUP
- CGHRSVW
- CGRSVISC
- CGRSVMGR
- CGSSCMD
- Payroll Accounting Technician/Manager

See the [Reserve Orders Extract Report User Guide](#) for the procedure to follow to run the report.

July Government Travel Charge Card (CTCC) Newsletter

The July issue of the [Government Travel Charge Card \(CTCC\) Newsletter](#) is available.

In this issue:

- Which fare to choose?
- Prudent Traveler
- Travel Order and ADTRAV
- Close a GTCC Account
- Good to Know
- All About Applications
- In the Spotlight
- Application Status/Rejects

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CGHR: On the Radar Screen August 2016

Welcome to the latest issue of CGHR: On the Radar Screen. You can access the newsletter when (and how) it's convenient for you - from work, from home, your smartphone, or your tablet. CGHR is your calendar for upcoming training and professional development events, as well as time-sensitive news.

You can read CGHR in its entirety by going to <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg1/cghr/2016/8.16.16.asp>.

If you have trouble accessing any of the newsletter links from your Coast Guard workstation, forward this email so you can read CGHR at home (or share with your family).

In this issue, you will find:

- On the Horizon
- Articles and Resources
- Tips and Tricks
- Coast Guard All Hands and Compass Blogs
- Recent Messages
- CG SUPRT
- Infographic

Earlier issues of CGHR can be accessed at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg1/cghr/default.asp>.

Direct Access Competency Dictionary Update

The [Direct Access Competency Dictionary](#)  (a spreadsheet which shows all authorized competency codes and descriptions) has been updated by Comdt (CG-1B-1).

Changes made since last update (29 June 2016) are hi-lighted in blue text on the spreadsheet.

- 2 Competency created
- 2 Competencies removed
- 9 Competency modified

Also highlighted blue was a bulk change within the "Mapped to TMT" column that ensured the all competencies mapped to TMT are properly reflected in the dictionary (216 of these changes were made). They can be found by looking at the column "Change Date" and filtering for changes made on 7/29/16.

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Defense Travel Management Office Allowances and Regulations Update

The Defense Travel Management Office has updated the following information for 01 September 2016:

[OCONUS Non-Foreign and Foreign Per Diem Rates](#)

[Overseas Housing Allowances \(OHA\)](#)

[Overseas Cost of Living Allowances \(COLA\)](#)

[Joint Travel Regulations \(JTR\) and Appendices](#)

To access this information, visit the [DTMO Website](#).

Reserve Early Retirement

Written by Chip Chase, CG-131

If you are a reservist, are you aware that you may qualify for retired pay before the age of 60? Have you served 90 days or more on active duty in any fiscal year since January 28, 2008? If so, you may be eligible to receive your Reserve retirement pay before age 60.

The 2008 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) included a provision to reduce the age at which a reservist may collect retired pay before age 60. The retirement age may be reduced by three months for every 90 cumulative days of qualifying active duty performed in a fiscal year after January 28, 2008.

The 2015 NDAA amended this even further and reads “serves on such active duty or performs such active service in any fiscal year after January 28, 2008, or in any two consecutive fiscal years after September 30, 2014.” This is great news. Now, for fiscal years 2015 and beyond, any short term qualifying active duty may be accumulated across two consecutive fiscal years to attribute to retired pay prior to age 60, eliminating the fiscal year barrier that may have hampered some of you earning reduced retirement age.

Qualifying duty includes “Overseas Contingency Operations” (OCO) (10 United States Code (U.S.C.) §12302 or commonly referred to as “Title 10”), Active Duty for Operational Support (ADOS) (10 U.S.C. §12301(d)), and “med-hold” (10 U.S.C. §12301(h)) orders. Orders under 14 U.S.C. §712 authority in response to domestic incidents prior to December 31, 2011 do not qualify for Reserve Early Retirement. The Coast Guard successfully submitted a legislative change proposal to include active duty for domestic contingency response as qualifying duty for early retirement, and was subsequently amended but was not back dated. The total cumulative days, including other qualifying active duty, must be in 90 day increments, and the domestic response duty must have been performed after December 31, 2011. The effective date does include response to *SUPER STORM SANDY*, but unfortunately does not include recall in response to the *DEEPWATER HORIZON* oil spill.

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A reservist still may not be ordered to nor have their current orders extended beyond the original end date solely for the purpose of qualifying the member for retired pay.

Some of you may not realize that you might already be eligible. You will not, however, be allowed to collect retired pay for periods of time when you were or are in a status that entitles you to collect other forms of pay or credit toward retirement. In other words, if you are still on active duty, in a Selected Reserve (SELRES) drilling status, or in an Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) status, you will have to request transfer to a retired status in order to begin collecting retired pay. If you are already in a retired awaiting pay (RET-2) status and you were eligible for Reserve Early Retirement you may request back pay within prescribed limits.

If you believe that you are entitled to Reserve Early Retirement, depending on your current status (SELRES/IRR/ISL/ASL/RET-2), you will need to apply for retired pay to Commanding Officer (CG PPC-RAS) through the following processes:

- 1) SELRES retirement eligible members complete a Reserve Retirement Transfer request through their chain of command with a requested retirement date to Commander (CG PSC-RPM) at ARL-PF-CGPSC-RPM-1-Status@uscg.mil 100 days before the requested retirement date.
- 2) IRR/ISL/ASL members contact Commander (CG PSC-RPM-3) for assistance with completing the Reserve Retirement Transfer form at ARL-PF-CGPSC-RPM-3-Query@uscg.mil.
- 3) RET-2 members submit a Trouble Ticket to PPC at <http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/ccb> with a completed Reserve Retirement Transfer request requesting early retirement calculations. Those in a retired status who apply later than their eligibility date may receive pay retroactively to the date you were eligible, up to six years, as long as you were not in a pay status.

When you begin collecting your Reserve Early Retired pay you are classified as a RET-1, “retired receiving pay.” You will qualify for a blue retired ID card; however, you will not be entitled to medical benefits until you actually reach age 60, which will be reflected on the back of the ID card. You may still be eligible for TRICARE Retired Reserve until you reach age 60.

Examples:

1. YN1 John Doe was on “Title 10” orders from 1 October 2010 to 30 September 2011, and then received ADOS orders from 1 October 2011 to 30 September 2012. YN1 Doe would be eligible to collect retired pay at age 58, as a result of serving 24 months of qualifying duty, instead of waiting until he reaches age 60.
2. BMC Jane Doe was on “Title 10” orders from 1 February through 30 September 2011. BMC Doe would be eligible to collect retired pay 6 months prior to reaching age 60.

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3. ME2 George Bailey served on 14 U.S.C. §712 orders in response to a hurricane for 60 days from 1 March to 29 April 2011, and then served on short-term ADOS orders from 1 June to 31 July 2011. ME2 Bailey would be eligible to collect retired pay 3 months prior to reaching age 60.
4. MK3 Sam Austin served on ADOS from 1 August 2015 to 30 September 2016 and received another short term ADOS orders from 1 October 2016 through 30 November 2016. Though MK3 Austin served 61 days on qualifying active duty in FY15 and 61 days of qualifying active duty in FY16, under the new rules he would qualify for 3 months of early retirement. The remaining qualifying days may be available to accumulate with any other qualifying active duty.

FAQs:

1. Do we need to show a DD214 for every 90-days of qualifying active duty, or will a signed set of original orders suffice?

A: No, you will only need to provide additional proof of creditable time if you feel your SOCS computation, to include your qualifying duty toward Reserve Early Retirement, is in error.

2. Is it true that the active duty must encompass an entire 3 months from the beginning to end of a quarter, or are any 90-days eligible to earn retirement credit?

A: The qualifying active duty does not have to be consecutive, and may be a cumulative time of 90, 180, 270, or 360 days within a fiscal year, and may cross two fiscal years for any qualifying duty served on or after October 1, 2014.

3. Once my Reserve Early Retirement time is calculated, will it show up on an LES or somewhere in Direct Access?

A: No, the final calculations are done at PPC-RAS when requesting retired pay and will not show on an LES, but should be reflected on the statement of creditable service (SOCS). Request a SOCS at least 1 year away from when you estimate you could retire early to confirm final eligible dates and total creditable points.

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Training Opportunity: SGLI Program Overview, 9/14/2016

An Overview of the SGLI Program is being offered to all branches of service on Wednesday, September 14th at 2 p.m. Eastern. The training will be done by phone, so no travel is involved.

Who Should Attend?

The session is designed for Branch of Service Casualty Officers, clerks and human resource staff who are new to their roles. You are welcome to invite others who you think might benefit.

What will it cover?

Here are the topics we'll cover:

- Program History
- Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI)
- Family Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (FSGLI)
- Accelerated Benefit Option (ABO)
- Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection Program (TSGLI)
- Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI)
- Payment Options
- Q&A

When and How to Register

Date: Wednesday September 14, 2016

Time: 2:00 - 3:00 PM Eastern Time

Registration: Email Wendy Eberle (wendy.eberle@prudential.com) by Monday 9/12

The training material and dial in information will be provided to all registered participants by September 13.

If you have additional questions about this training, please feel free to contact me for clarification.

V/R,

Wendy Eberle
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