VOLUME 7B, “GLOSSARY”

SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES

All changes are denoted by blue font.

Substantive revisions are denoted by an * symbol preceding the section, paragraph, table, or figure that includes the revision.

Unless otherwise noted, chapters referenced are contained in this volume.

Hyperlinks are denoted by bold, italic, blue and underlined font.

The previous version dated August 2009 is archived.

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GLOSSARY

A. Scope

B. List of Definitions

Active Duty  
Full-time duty in the active service of a Uniformed Service, including full-time training duty, annual training duty, and attendance while in the active service at a school designated as a Military Service school by law or by the Secretary of the Military Service concerned (or designee).

Active Duty List  
A single list for the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps which contains the names of all officers of that Armed Force, other than officers described in Title 10, United States Code, section 641, who are serving on active duty.

Amendatory Birth Certificate  
A birth certificate that has been corrected, changed, or revised.

Annuitant  
A person receiving an annuity.

Annuity  
A monthly payment made to a person as a result of a specific survivorship plan.

Armed Forces of the United States  
Includes the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, and all Components thereof.

Basic Pay  
The active-duty pay rates prescribed for an officer or enlisted member according to pay grade and years of service.

Beneficiary  
The recipient of certain benefits due as a result of a relationship to or designation by a member.

Benefits  
Compensation or pension, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) definition only.

Common-Law Marriage  
A marriage not solemnized by religious or civil ceremony as defined in pertinent state law.
Compensation
A monthly payment made by the VA to a veteran because of service-connected disability or to a surviving spouse, child, or parent of a veteran because of the service-connected death of the veteran occurring before January 1, 1957 (VA definition only).

Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC)
This program provides a special monthly payment that is equivalent to the portion of military retired pay offset for receipt of VA disability compensation determined to be combat-related. Qualified individuals include any military retired members whose retired pay is offset for VA compensation based on a combat-related disability.

Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay (CRDP)
This program provides a 10-year phase-out (with certain exceptions) of the offset of military retired pay for retired members who receive VA disability compensation, have a combined VA disability rating of 50 percent or greater, and are active or Reserve members receiving retired pay for longevity or disability retirees with more than 20 years of service.

Cost-of-Living Adjustment
Percentage change applied to retired pay and SBP annuities based on laws using the Consumer Price Index (CPI), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, to determine the amount of income.

Currency-Blocked Country
A country specified by the Treasury Department to which dollar instruments may not be transmitted.

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)
Compensation paid by the VA to the widow or widower of a member who dies after December 31, 1956, from a service-connected or compensable disability.

Entitlement
The legal right to receive items of retired pay or annuities.

Fiduciary
A person, legally designated, who holds something in trust for another person.

Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve
A Component of the Regular Service to which members may be transferred and released from active duty after obtaining 20 or more years of active Federal service.

Foreign Address
An address outside of the United States, its possessions and territories.

Inactive Duty Training
a. Duty prescribed for members of a Reserve Component by the Secretary of the
Military Service concerned (or designee); or

   b. Special additional duties authorized for members of a Reserve Component by an authority designated by the Secretary of the Military Service concerned and performed by them on a voluntary basis in connection with prescribed training or maintenance activities of the units to which they are assigned.

**Missing Status**
Includes missing, missing-in-action, interned in a foreign country, captured, beleaguered, besieged by a hostile force, or detained in a foreign country against a member’s will.

**Non-Service Connected**
With respect to disability or death, such disability was not incurred or aggravated, or the death did not result from a disability incurred or aggravated, in the line of duty in the active military, naval, or air service (VA definition only).

**Overpayment**
An amount paid to a retiree, annuitant, or legal fiduciary which is more than that to which entitlement exists.

**Parent**
A father, mother, father through adoption, or mother through adoption; or an individual who, for not less than 1 year, stood in the relationship of a parent of a veteran at any time before the veteran’s entry into active military, naval, or air service for 1 year or more; or the person who last stood in the relationship of father or mother before the veteran’s last entry into active military, naval, or air service (VA definition only).

**Pay Grade**
The step or degree in a graduated scale to which members of the Uniformed Services are assigned or distributed for military pay and allowances purposes. See Appendix I, Comparable Grades.

**Pension**
A monthly payment made by the VA to a veteran because of service, age, or non-service-connected disability; a surviving spouse; or child of a veteran because of the non-service-connected death of the veteran (VA definition only).

**Reserve Component**
With respect to the Armed Forces, the Army Reserve, the Naval Reserve, the Marine Corps Reserve, the Air Force Reserve, the Coast Guard Reserve, the National Guard of the United States, and the Air National Guard of the United States (VA definition only).

**Retainer Pay**
Pay received by a member of the Fleet Reserve/Fleet Marine Corps Reserve.
Retired List
   Any one of several lists of military members retired from the Regular or Reserve Components of the Armed Forces.

Retired Pay (Includes Fleet Reserve and FMCR Retainer Pay)
   The gross entitlement for a member based on conditions of the retirement law, pay grade, years of service for basic pay, years of service for percentage multiplier, percentage of disability, if applicable, and date of retirement (transfer).

Retired Saved Pay
   Special pay provisions that allow retired members, under certain conditions, to retain entitlement to pay under prior laws when beneficial to the member.

Retirement Date
   The first day of entitlement to retired pay, not a day of active duty.

Service Connected
   With respect to disability or death, such disability was incurred or aggravated or the death resulted from a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval, or air service (VA definition only).

Surviving Spouse
   A person of the opposite sex who was the spouse of a veteran at the time of the veteran’s death and who lived with the veteran continuously from the date of marriage to the date of the veteran’s death (except when there was a separation due to the misconduct of, or procured by, the veteran without the fault of the spouse). In addition, the person who was not remarried or has not lived with another person and held himself or herself out openly to the public to be the spouse of such other person since the death of the veteran, and after September 19, 1962 (VA definition only).

Tower Amendment
   The law provided that a member retiring after January 1, 1971 may not receive less retired pay than the monthly retired or retainer pay to which he or she would be entitled if the member had become entitled to retired or retainer pay at an earlier date.

Transfer Date (Fleet Reservists, Fleet Marine Corps Reservists)
   Date of release from active duty (a day of entitlement to active duty pay and allowances).

Uniformed Services
   The Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service.

United States
   The 50 states and the District of Columbia.
VA
The Department of Veterans Affairs.

Veteran
A person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released under honorable conditions (VA definition only).

Widow
The surviving wife of the deceased member.

Widower
The surviving husband of the deceased member.