

Instructions
AFI Update - Flags

FLAG
RECIPIENTS

-----Original Message-----

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Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2008 6:49 PM

To: Miles, Ed Civ USAF ACC ACC/A1S-2; Coalson, Les Civ USAF AETC A1/A1S;
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AFRC/A1S; Nunn Eddie W CIV USAF AFSOC AFSOC/A1S; Grammer, Jonathan A Civ USAF
AFSPC AFSPC/A1S; Trotter, Benjamin D Col USAF AMC AMC/A1S; Uhde, William Civ USAF
AMC AMC/A1S; Cutting, Russell N Col USAF PACAF PACAF/A1S; Ishee, Calvin Civ USAF
PACAF PACAF/A1S2; Joyce, Thomas C Col USAF USAFE USAFE/A1S; Borda, Brian Civ USAF
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Cc: Ryder, Frederic C Col USAF AFSVA AFSVA/CC; Bensen, Michael S Civ USAF AFSVA
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AFSVA/SVOMD

Subject: Impact of FY'09 NDAA and AF Mortuary Program

The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for FY'09, signed by President Bush 14 Oct 2008, includes an increase in the authorized flag recipients. This will impact your mortuary accounts. The change is below:

Subtitle D - Retired Pay and Survivor Benefits

Section 641 -Authorizes the presentation of a burial flag, in the case of a member who dies in service, to: (1) the surviving spouse of the member, when such spouse is not otherwise entitled to a flag as a person designated to direct the disposition of remains; and (2) each child of the member.

According to AFI 34-242, Chapter 2, Par. 2.19., each person entitled to receive an interment flag is also entitled to receive a hardwood flag case.

Therefore, the impact of this change in legislation will include flag(s)/flag case(s) being presented to the following authorized recipients: (1) Spouse, (2) each child, (3) Parents, (one, if married and two, if divorced) and (4) PADD, if not one of the persons already named. This change will eventually be reflected in Title 10, Sec 1482(a)(10) & (11).

Our recommendation is for the Installation Mortuary Office processing the case to provide one flag to drape the casket, or one flag to be hand carried by the escort, along with the urn, in the case of a cremation accomplished through an installation contract mortuary. The installation providing the military funeral honors will provide the additional flags and appropriate number of hardwood flag case(s). The flag case(s) will continue to include: current rank insignia, devices, functional badge(s) and decorations the decedent was awarded, to include the metallic nametag.

We further recommend the MAJCOM A1S's submit this as an unfunded requirement to their respective MAJCOM FM to ensure the installations have the appropriate funding to cover this unfunded entitlement governed by the new law.

As of 1 Oct 2008, the current cost for each hardwood flag case is \$103.00 + shipping and each cotton burial flag is \$50.00 + shipping. Utilizing the latest available statistics, we would anticipate an average of (3) additional flags/flag cases per death. This would amount to an average increase in cost of \$550.00 per service for the flags, flag cases, shipping and all accouterments, awards and decorations.

Please contact Mark Blair or one of his staff for further details.

Guy