

# Five Star \*\*\* \*\* Chapter \*

# President's Message...

### December 2022 Issue

Greetings Friends,

On behalf of your Board of Directors, I would like to extend our warmest wishes to each and every one of you and your families for a wonderful and Blessed Christmas and Holiday season. This is a most joyful time of the year to share with family and friends.



I would like to call your attention to two articles in this newsletter; first, the 2023 National Defense Act passage which reflects many of MOAA's priorities and secondly, the article in the November national newsletter featuring our own Judith Thomas (as usual, way to go Judith). Additionally, please keep our Armed Forces men and women who will not be home for the holidays in your hearts and prayers. We stand with you.

Finally, a reminder that there will be no Chapter lunch meeting this month.

Respectfully, and Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night. See you next year.

Rob Robin P. Ritchie, COL, Infantry, USAR (Ret) President

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### January 2023...Chapter Events:

Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 11:30am-1:30pm MOAA HA Chapter Meeting Location to be announced RSVP to Rob Ritchie Email: <u>rpritchie@earthlink.net</u>

## Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 @ noon

MOAA HA BOD Meeting Rudi Lechner's German Restaurant 2503 S Gessner Rd Houston, TX 77063



Newsletter of MOAA Houston Area – Published Electronically MOAA is a Nonpartisan Publication

# Houston Area Chapter Member Honored for Work with Military Surviving Spouses

By Contributing Editor Blair Drake OCTOBER 25, 2022

Judith Thomas has proven herself a vital resource to the military surviving spouse community. She gives presentations about taking care of your spouse before you die. She provides advice to members of two Agent Orange-related Facebook groups. She writes monthly newsletter articles for the <u>Houston Area Chapter of MOAA</u>, of which she is surviving spouse liaison. And she works one-on-one with surviving spouses to help navigate paperwork and benefits following the death of their military spouse.

For her efforts, Thomas is a 2022 recipient of MOAA's Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award.



Judith Thomas, surviving spouse liaison for the Houston Area Chapter, frequently gives presentations about preparing for and navigating the death of a spouse. (Courtesy photo)

"It's very humbling," she said of receiving the award. "I think about the people who have mentored me over the years and have worked with me, and each gave me pearls of wisdom. ... I'm grateful for it."

In addition to the Houston Chapter, Thomas is a member of <u>MOAA's Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter</u>, a member of the Del Webb Sweetgrass Veterans' Club, the treasurer of auxiliary chapter 233 of the DAV, a member of the Society of Military Widows, a member of the US Wives and Widow Warriors of Agent Orange Facebook Club, and a member of the Vietnam War Commemoration Commission. As a commemorative partner of the commission, Thomas has personally "pinned" over 300 Vietnam War-era veterans with the commemorative lapel pin. She also has been the surviving spouse recognition coordinator for the Society of Military Widows since 2019 and has mailed nearly 4,000 certificates of honor and surviving spouse lapel pins provided by the Vietnam War Commission.

[RELATED: <u>Tennessee Council Leader Dedicated to Coaching Military Spouses</u>, <u>Surviving Spouses</u>] Her husband, Lt. Gen. Billy Thomas, USA (Ret), served two tours in Vietnam. He died in 2016 from cancer caused by Agent Orange exposure.

When she joined the Houston Chapter a few years later, Thomas said it continued her connection to the military.

"The military has basically been my whole life. I'm the daughter, wife, and mother of soldiers," she said.

Giving back also has long been a part of her life, and something that was engrained in her as a child. In addition to her father's military service, her mother served on the local PTA and then moved up to boards at the city and state levels.

"All of us were taught that you give back," Thomas said. "I have been able to give back, mostly through military organizations."

[RELATED: Learn More About MOAA's Surviving Spouse Community and Resources] One of the ways she did so was working on the paid staff of the Army Family Liaison Office when her husband was still serving in the Army.

"I was privileged to be involved in places to help [military families] and be involved in the decision making," she said. "When you learn things, you're supposed to share them."

That's one of the reasons she continues to give back, especially to surviving spouses.

"I strongly feel that whatever community you're in, you have a responsibility to make that community better," she said. "Surviving spouses brings in a different perspective and a sense of community to MOAA chapters. ... There's a line from a song, 'I will pass this way but once. If there's any good that I can do, let me do it now.' That has guided some of what I do." ★

## **Bipartisan NDAA Draft Reflects Key MOAA Priorities**

By MOAA Government Relations Staff DECEMBER 07, 2022



Servicemembers would receive a 4.6% pay raise as part of the FY 2023 National Defense Authorization Act. (Photo by Lance Cpl. David Intriago/Marine Corps) (Updated Dec. 8 with House vote)

The FY 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) took a significant step toward passage Dec. 6 when House and Senate Armed Services Committee leaders released draft legislation agreed upon by members of both parties – a bill which addresses several critical MOAA priorities.

The House passed the legislation 350-80 on Dec. 8, clearing a twothirds threshold required for the bill to pass under the suspension of chamber rules (a move allowing for less debate and eliminating floor amendments, among other changes from normal procedure). The Senate likely will take up the measure next week. The 4,400-page document pulls primarily from the House NDAA version passed by that chamber in July and a version passed by the Senate Armed Services Committee in June.

### [TAKE ACTION: <u>Ask Your Senators to Pass the NDAA Before the Close of the 117th Congress</u>] Here are some key provisions included in the <u>must-pass legislation</u>:

### **Compensation and Service-Earned Benefits**

**Pay Raise:** Servicemembers will receive a 4.6% pay raise starting Jan. 1, 2023. The raise matches the Employment Cost Index from October 2021, as required by law; Congress took no action to adjust the pay levels.

[RELATED: <u>Here's Why the 2024 Military Pay Raise Should Be the Largest in Decades</u>] Recruiting and Retention Bonuses: Extending bonus authorities is critical as DoD faces a challenging recruiting environment. To ensure DoD remains competitive, many categories of bonuses are seeing increases between \$15,000 and \$25,000.

Alaska Travel Allowance: Given the alarming increase in <u>suicides</u> in Alaska, Congress has taken a special interest in the quality of life for those serving there. As part of efforts to help these servicemembers, Congress is requiring DoD to create a program to reimburse travel costs for those in uniform to return to their home of record.

**Pay Reports:** In addition to these pay changes, Congress is requiring several studies focused on basic pay, the accuracy of the Basic Housing Allowance (BAH), and the dislocation allowance rate. These items could be included in the Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation, but the language for these provisions show Congress is keeping a very close eye on these issues and wants the information before that report is due.

### **Military Housing**

**BAH Adjustment Authority:** Congress would authorize the secretary of defense to prescribe temporary adjustments to BAH for military housing areas in which average housing costs exceed current BAH rates by more than 20 percent – a critical benefit as military families continue to face challenges finding affordable housing.

**BAH Continuation:** If a servicemember's sole dependent passes away, the servicemember will continue to receive the BAH with dependents rate for up to one year.

**BAH Home Port Changes:** If a servicemember has no dependents and faces a home port change that would disadvantage the member financially, the secretary of defense can authorize BAH based on either the member's previous home port or permanent duty station. *Continued on the following page...* 

### Bipartisan NDAA Draft Reflects Key MOAA Priorities

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### Health Care for Currently Serving and Retirees

**Pausing Billet Cuts:** The FY 2023 NDAA includes a five-year halt to medical billet cuts (an extension of the three-year halt proposed in the <u>House version</u>), with the addition of a one-year suspension of <u>military treatment facility</u> restructuring.

**Better Referral Process:** A change would allow families to receive TRICARE Prime specialty care referrals for their new location prior to a PCS move.

[RELATED: <u>Much-Needed Reform Would Benefit Special Needs Families on the Move</u>] National Guard Health Care: Eligibility for <u>transitional health care benefits</u> would expand to members of the National Guard following required training or other duty to respond to a national emergency.

### **Service Families**

**Basic Needs Allowance (BNA):** The BNA, included in the FY 2022 NDAA, is designed to provide financial support to military families facing food insecurity. A provision in the FY 2023 NDAA increases the threshold from 130% to 150% of the federal poverty guideline based on household size and authorizes the secretary of defense to increase the threshold up to 200% when deemed appropriate.

**CDCs and Special Needs:** A pilot program would provide special needs inclusion coordinators at child development centers (CDCs) with higher numbers of Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) enrollees. These coordinators will help establish intervention and inclusion services, provide direct classroom support, and provide guidance and assistance relating to the increased complexity of working with the behaviors of children with special needs.

### [RELATED: Advisory Council Members Offer Tips for PCSing With Special Needs Children]

**Child Care Cost Reimbursement:** Another pilot program would reimburse servicemembers for certain childcare costs incident to a PCS or permanent change of assignment (PCA) – if child care is unavailable at a CDC within 30 days of a PCS or PCA, this program will authorize reimbursement of travel expenses for a designated child care provider. Reimbursement limits for CONUS and OCONUS moves are \$500 and \$1,500, respectively.

#### Survivors

**Survivor Benefit Plan Open Season:** The FY 2023 NDAA authorizes an open season for eligible military retirees to opt in or out of the Survivor Benefit Plan. The open season would run from the enactment of the NDAA through Jan. 1, 2024.

### **Guard and Reserve**

**Backdating National Guard Officer Promotions:** The bill requires the backdating the effective date of Army and Air Guard officers whose promotion is delayed over 100 days, due to no fault of their own. The promotion date for promotions between enactment of the NDAA and Jan. 1, 2024, would be at the discretion of the Army and Air Force secretaries, but promotions after Jan. 1, 2024, will be later of two possible dates: The date that National Guard Bureau deems the officer's application for federal recognition completely submitted, or the date on which the officer occupies a billet in the next higher grade.

**Report on Federal Recognition:** In addition to improving National Guard officer promotions, the NDAA requires the DoD contract an independent report on how to improve processing of <u>Federal Recognition</u> until the delay is less than 90 days.

### [RELATED: MOAA Joins Other Veterans Groups Seeking GI Bill Parity for Guard, Reserve] What's Next

The DoD vaccine mandate was a part of the NDAA discussion and an area of resistance for many lawmakers. While MOAA has been deferential to the secretary of defense on this topic, we recognize Congress is also weighing the benefits and costs of such a decision on the health of the force. As part of the NDAA deal, Congress decided to rescind the vaccine mandate, which should help to ensure the bill does not stall.

Time is limited between now and the end of the year. In addition to passing the NDAA, Congress must also avoid a government shutdown and seek to pass appropriations before the end of the year. Ask your senators to pass the NDAA before they go home this year. **★** 

## MOAA Named to Top Lobbyist List for 16th Consecutive Year

By: Kipp Hanley DECEMBER 07, 2022

MOAA capped off a highly successful 2022 by being named to *The Hill's* list of top lobbyists for the 16th consecutive year.

*The Hill,* one of the nation's top Washington-focused news organizations, honors "the most impactful advocates at K Street firms, companies, trade associations and grassroots advocacy groups." MOAA was honored in the Grassroots section along with veterans groups Burn Pits 360 and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

"This award is truly the result of a collective effort from both our national office in Alexandria, Virginia and the chapter members across the country," said Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, USAF (Ret), MOAA's president and CEO. "Everyone on our team – from our Member Service Center reps working the phones, to our Council and Chapter leaders rallying the



From left, MOAA member Col. Jeri Graham, USA (Ret), MOAA President and CEO Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, USAF (Ret), Government Relations Vice President Col. Dan Merry, USAF (Ret), and Government Relations Director Lt. Col. Mark Belinsky, USA (Ret), head to meetings with lawmakers earlier this year. (Photo by Mike Morones/MOAA)

troops, to our Government Relations team testifying before Congress – joins forces to advocate for servicemembers, veterans, retirees, families and survivors. We are thrilled with the recognition that The Hill has given us."

After seven years serving as MOAA's president, Atkins will retire in early January. His leadership proved instrumental to MOAA's advocacy success during this period, said Gen. Gary L. North, chairman of MOAA's MOAA Board of Directors.

"It takes a lot of work and expertise to maintain this level of influence over an extended period as the voice for the uniformed services community and their families and survivors," North said. "It all starts with our President and CEO, Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, who led us to this prestigious recognition every year during his tenure."

### [REGISTER TODAY: MOAA's Legislative Action Center]

MOAA members and staffers contacted every one of the 535 congressional offices during the annual Advocacy in Action lobbying campaign, conducting 250 virtual and in-person meetings, and sending over 10,000 messages to Capitol Hill. The campaign focused on military pay raises, eliminating the dollar-for-dollar offset in concurrent receipt for medically retired veterans, and reducing TRICARE mental health copays.

MOAA also lobbied successfully for the Sergeant First Class *Heath Robinson Honoring* our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) *Act*, benefitting servicemembers impacted by burn pits and other toxic substances. Lobbying efforts included <u>magazine</u> and newsletter articles, and a letter-writing campaign.



In addition to the PACT Act, MOAA successfully pushed for additional legislative and policy provisions supporting servicemembers, veterans and their families to include requiring DoD to create an appeal process for Tier 4/non-covered prescription drugs and increased respite care hours for medically

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MOAA Director of Government Relations for Veteran Benefits and Guard/Reserve Affairs Cory Titus speaks at a March 29 press conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., in support of the Honoring Our PACT Act. (Photo by Mike Morones/MOAA)

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# SURVIVING SPOUSES

# Surviving Spouse Corner: Benefits of Pet Adoption



Judith Thomas Surviving Spouse Liaison MOAA Houston Chapter 719-331-8485 (cell) jthomas482@aol.com

According to the ASPCA, well over 6 million companion animals enter U.S. animal shelters every year and just under 1 million are euthanized each year. Thankfully, that number has been declining in recent years due in part to more publicity around adoption as well as ease of technology tools like social media and microchips that can help to reunite a lost pet with its family.

You might have thought about pet adoption and perhaps have some misgivings, and it is true that pet ownership is not right for everyone. After all, it can be a commitment of up to 20 years. Here are some adoption myths and why pet adoption might be right for you.

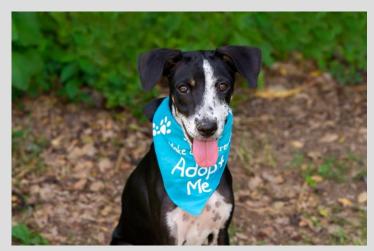


Photo by David Bailevs/Getty Images

- "Why adopt, not shop?" Adoption is cheaper, and you can save a life. Look into your local pet rescues and animal control shelters. Many will offer low-cost adoption days or assistance with adoption fees and spay/neuter costs.
  Buying a pup from a pet shop may encourage the use of "puppy mills" or overbreeding. True, there are very reputable breeders that take great care of their animals, but consider all the animals that currently need a loving home that you could provide.
- "I can't get a purebred from a shelter." You'd be surprised at what you can find through your local rescues and shelters. If you want a specific breed, reach out to your local rescue organizations and shelters, and fill out an application listing your preference.
- "Shelter pets have behavioral issues." Some do, some don't, and there is no guarantee of an animal's disposition even if you buy one from a breeder. Most rescues want to see a successful placement so they will try their best to match an animal to a potential family based on their breed and observed demeanor. Want an energetic pup? They have it. Want a cuddly cat? They have those, too. House-trained pet? Yep. No time for pet training? Many will offer that as well. Just remember that you and your shelter pet need an adjustment period to get used to a new routine.
- "I'm older. What if the pet outlives me?" First, as many of us know, tomorrow is not guaranteed and as such, regardless of our age we should all have a care plan for who will care for our pets when we no longer can. Second, consider adopting a senior pet or fostering through a reputable rescue.
- "I can't afford it." Yes, pets can be expensive. If this is a concern, check into long-term foster programs where costs may be covered in part or in full. You might also want to consider pet insurance. (MOAA Insurance even offers a plan.)

My two senior pups recently passed away, and when I was ready, I reached out to a few rescues in my area. I am now the dog mom to a 2-year-old, lazy, fully housebroken 45-pound, ridiculously cute, mixed-breed bundle of love and couldn't have asked for a better pup. **★** 

# Black Special Forces Veteran Close to Receiving Medal of Honor After Decades

Top photo by Demetrius Freeman/The Washington Post via Getty Images; image of Paris Davis (below) via Army Editor's note: This article by Steve Beynon originally appeared on <u>Military.com</u>, a leading source of news for the military and veteran community.





Capt. Paris Davis, who disobeyed a direct order to abandon the battlefield and his <u>Special Forces</u> team, saving lives during an intense firefight during the Vietnam War, is getting close to receiving the <u>Medal of Honor</u> after over five decades of roadblocks.

A Pentagon official told Military.com on the condition of anonymity that Davis' nomination was approved by Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in early November. It now sits on Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin's desk and then would also need to be approved by President Joe Biden.

Davis, a Black man who retired as a colonel, was nominated for the award by his chain of command following the hectic battle in 1965 and then again years later. But that nomination never progressed, and records of that process were lost by <u>Army</u> administrative officials at least twice, <u>according to reporting for The New York Times</u>.

Davis' valor leading an early morning raid was seemingly never in question, with the Army citing his heroic deeds for multiple awards. Instead, the issue was the color of his skin, according to Davis.

"I know race was a factor," Davis said during a television interview in 1969.

### [RELATED: 'The Wall' Turns 40: Reflections on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial]

In January 2021, then-Acting Defense Secretary Christopher Miller ordered a review of Davis' lost nomination.

Davis was one of the first Black officers in Special Forces and joined during a period when violence tied to preventing racial equality in the U.S. was at a peak and as Army units were desegregated.

He was shot in the arm and leg during the 1965 battle. Many on his 12-man team were injured, including one soldier he was desperately trying to get to but was stuck in mud and under jungle debris with enemy machine gunners peppering the ground around those attempting rescue.

Davis was ordered by a colonel watching the battle from a helicopter above to retreat, which would mean leaving some of his teammates behind. Some of those soldiers were still likely alive.

Continued on the following page ...

### Black Special Forces Veteran Close to Receiving Medal of Honor After Decades ...Continued from the previous page...

"I told him, 'Sir, I'm not going to leave; I have an American still out there,'" <u>he said</u> during the 1969 interview. "I said some words I don't care to repeat, I did a little swearing I think was due to the intensity of the situation."

### [RELATED: 4 Vietnam Vets Awarded Medals of Honor in White House Ceremony]

The small special forces team, and 90 South Vietnamese troops, fought off waves of enemy fighters for nearly 10 hours <u>until reinforcements arrived</u>. Davis and all the Special Forces soldiers made it out alive.

"We were stacking bodies the way you do canned goods at a grocery store," Davis said in the television interview.

Davis is yet another Black man who had to wait decades for awards to mark his valor, a wrong the Pentagon has slowly been trying to correct in recent years.

In 2021, after years of delay, Biden awarded the Medal of Honor to Alwyn Cashe, the first Black service member to receive the award since the Vietnam era. Cashe died rescuing his soldiers from a burning <u>Bradley</u> vehicle during the Iraq War. In 1997, <u>President Bill Clinton awarded</u> the medal to seven Black World War II veterans, including Lt. John Fox who died directing artillery fire at his location to limit a German advance.

Davis, 83, retired in 1985 after serving as commander of 10th Special Forces Group. \*









# MOAA Named to Top Lobbyist List for 16th Consecutive Year

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complex family members enrolled in TRICARE's Extended Care Health Option (ECHO). It also supported the passage of S. 2533, which improves screening and treatment of mammography services in the VA, just to name a few.

MOAA will champion a number of measures in 2023, including full 2023 cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) payments for military retires, disabled veterans, Social Security beneficiaries, and others receiving federal compensation. In addition, MOAA will be leading efforts to protect the TRICARE pharmacy benefit in the face of cuts to the retail network.

### [TAKE ACTION: Ask Your Lawmaker to Help Reverse TRICARE Pharmacy Cuts]

"MOAA's advocacy efforts will remain strong as 2022 comes to a close and the new Congress begins its deliberations," said Col. Dan Merry, USAF (Ret), MOAA's vice president of Government Relations. "Our core mission is to 'Never Stop Serving' our uniformed services and veteran communities, and we will continue to do so in the years ahead." **★** 

# Chaplain's Corner...





### WHEN THEY SAW THE STAR, THEY REJOICED WITH EXCEEDING GREAT JOY.

Christians are in the middle of the Season of Advent. This is the celebration of anticipation of the arrival of the Christ Child. The Gospel of Matthew describes how the 3 kings (Magi) followed the star to the manger to bring their gifts to Jesus. Some scholars believe the journey may have taken a year or more.

For those of us in the military, travel has been a way of life. Our personal journeys may have taken us around the country or around the world. We may have had only one or multiple deployments and changes of station. I first enlisted in 1968 to fly helicopters (I knew I'd be going to Vietnam as a pilot if I passed training). I had no idea that I would spend 31 of the past 53 years in the Active and Army Reserve. Also, as a teacher and a reservist, I always taught my students to follow their dreams.

My first dream was to be a pilot. I believe that God honored that dream...although there were times when I did not honor God. God says that at those times we are "missing the mark". He calls it sin. There were times as a pilot, a father, husband, chaplain and teacher when I missed the mark. God's Word tells us that sin brought death, that we are all sinners and that we'll all face death and God's judgement for our sin. It also tells us that our sin will separate us from God for eternity. But that God has a better plan.

Christmas is our celebration of God's Gift to us. God's love and our sin brought Jesus Christ into the world as part of God's Plan. The Magi were basically astrologers, following an anomaly in the heavens. Yes, their journey was ordained by God and recorded by the prophets. That was part of the miracle of Christ's advent and their journey. That's part of prophecies and miracles. John 3:16-17 describes God's love and the reason for Christ's advent:

"For God so loved the world that He gave his only son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life.

For God did not send His son into the world to condemn the world but that the world might be saved."

The fact is that we are all here on a journey that we call life. Just like in our military journey there were parts that we liked and parts that were more difficult than we could ever imagine. Whether we believe God was guiding us or not is part of our personal belief system. We can choose whether or not to believe in God's direction and involvement in our lives. That doesn't alter His involvement in our lives. The fact is, however, that we are both physical and spiritual beings. We will never be able to prove that fact until after our death.

The Magi followed the star having an idea of where they were going but not knowing exactly where their journey would lead them. They didn't know their destination until they got there, at the manger, in the presence of the Christ Child, Mary, Joseph and the animals. It was a noble goal to follow the star, and with a humble destination. But they knew they were in the presence of the King.

Faith is understanding and believing in that which we cannot see. As I get older, my faith gets more understandable and my sight becomes clearer. We may not know exactly where we are on the journey but Christmas tells me that God is with me on that journey. Christmas is the celebration that God gives eternal life to anyone who asks Him for it. It will cost us our life but He gives us that life.

### ~ David Essells, USAR, MAJ, RET

### 2022 Officers

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Chapter Newsletter Editor Kathy Frank 713.203.5058 kathyfrank23@gmail.com We need <u>YOU</u>... to remain a MOAA HA Member!



Debating whether to renew your chapter membership?

## Talking to a potential new member?

Benefits to belonging to a chapter:

- Camaraderie and Connections: when you attend chapter functions, actively serve on a committee, or take a prominent leadership role, you forge lasting ties with other MOAA members.
- Community Involvement: Membership provide opportunities to contribute to your community in a variety of ways, from providing scholarships to local students, to supporting causes that support wounded warriors and their families.
- Legislative Advocacy: We advocate for the entire military community-all ranks.
  Members play a critical role in advancing legislation in both Austin and Washington, D.C. This grassroots advocacy is key to MOAA achieving its legislative goals.

Chapter dues reminders will be emailed/sent out in November to those members needing renewal. We are on a calendar year for our chapter dues.

Annual renewal is \$30 for one year, \$20 for each additional year paid with renewal. Surviving Spouse \$15 initial membership; \$10 annual renewal.

Membership Application on the last page!

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## **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM**

### **MOAA's Core Mission**

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of uniformed servicemembers and their families. MOAA's constituents proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: Never Stop Serving.

MOAA's greatest mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families, which is achieved largely through the tireless advocacy efforts taking place in our nation's capital. For more than 90 years, MOAA has supported legislation that benefits the uniformed services community and has remained equally vigilant when fighting to stop legislation that threatens our livelihood. The larger our numbers, the greater our voice. For more detailed legislative actions see <u>MOAA | Take Action Center (quorum.us)</u>

Name:					
Name: (Please print)	Last		First	Initial	Rank
Branch		Status		MOAA Nat'I ID	*
Spouse's First Name:		Tel. for Directory			
Home Address:					
Email:					
Dues: <u>Regular Membership</u> – \$30 first year; annual renewal \$30 (Discount for multiple years if paid with renewal: \$20 for each addt'l. year <b>paid with renewal</b> ) <u>Surviving Spouse</u> – \$15 first year; annual renewal \$10 (same discount for multiple years) <u>Chapter Assistance Fund</u>					
□ \$100.00	□ \$50.00	□ \$25.00	Other		
Make check payable to MOAA-HA and mail to:					
MOAA-HA PO Box 18372 Sugar Land, TX 77496					
For more information, call COL Robin Ritchie, 713-818-0408					
*If not a MOAA national member, another benefit of chapter membership is the opportunity to become a national MOAA member at the BASIC LEVEL for free! If you would like to do so, please indicate here: YES INO					
Signature:					
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