

The STANDARD



Not So Far Away

AFBA and 5Star Life are proud to support NGAMS and its members



The SSLI program provides a member death benefit with
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Contact the National Guard Association of Mississippi at
www.NGAMS.org or (601) 354-7555 to learn more.

Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Shawn Keeton

Member death benefits provided by AFBA are underwritten by 5Star Life Insurance Company (a Lincoln, NE company) with an administrative office at 909 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. This member benefit is offered only to its National Guard Association members in the state of Mississippi

Policy forms: LT050197(REV); GNGPOLICY-MS-R413; GNG-060103
NGAMS Standard MagR0418

The STANDARD

The cover of this year's Standard shows an airman looking out the back of a C-17 flying off the surface of the moon. Obviously the cover is somewhat in jest. However, how far out of the bounds of reality is it? This generation of Service member no longer serves one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer. Previously a "summer camp" in Germany or Korea was a once in a career trip. Now members of the Mississippi National Guard routinely deploy multiple times and there is no sign of it slowing. Where does it go next? Now more than ever you need a source for connecting the members of the Mississippi National Guard to the resources that allow them to be the bridge between the military and the civilian sectors. The National Guard Association of Mississippi is that source.

This year the National Guard Association of Mississippi continues to add more online resources at www.ngams.org. Let the NGAMS Standard be your guide to our online services and additional resource for information on both our programs as well as the companies that provide you the ability to better serve our state and nation. We are very excited to provide these services to you and look forward to continuing to set the Standard.

Sincerely,

Your Association

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For the most up to date information please follow us on these social media sites:

Facebook/National Guard Association of Mississippi

Twitter @TNGAMS

Instagram @nationalguardassociationofms

WEB SITE:

www.ngams.org



*Pictured above is the War Memorial Building
120 North State Street, Jackson, MS 39205*

NEVER PAY STATE OR NATIONAL DUES AGAIN!

NGAMS IS OFFERING NEW LIFE MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS.

Currently a life membership for NGAUS costs \$1,000 and you still have to pay your yearly membership to NGAMS. Further, you then have to pay a one time retired membership when you retire.

However, for the first year after commissioning we are offering a special \$750 life membership that covers both the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) and the National Guard Association of Mississippi (NGAMS)...for the rest of your active and retired life!!!!

As an active life member, you will always count as a delegate, even after retirement. Normally it takes 50 retired members of the association to count as equal to one active delegate. Having more delegates strengthens the ability of your NGAMS to protect you, your fellow Service members and your respective families. Have your voice heard and your vote count one for one even after you retire.

Further, members also enjoy a variety of benefits that include everything from insurance and other life enhancing programs to various discounts and privileges with a variety of business partners. Visit the following link below for more details:

<http://www.ngaus.org/ngaus-membership-makes-guard-stronger/member-benefits>

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Here is how you can do it...

- ★ Join online at www.ngams.org and click on "Life Membership Application" under the "Membership Tab."
- ★ Call us at 601-354-7555
- ★ Visit us at 120 North State Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201
- ★ Mail us a completed life membership form (may be downloaded from our website) with credit card information or a check with your full name, rank, address, phone number, and email address to:

NGAMS

Attn: Life Membership

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Jackson, MS 39205

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2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

THE
NGAMS

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3M Personal Safety Division - Supplying confidence and trust in protective gear by providing rugged and reliable equipment across DoD, DoJ, DHS, and U.S. state and local agencies. 3M's technically innovative ballistic head, eye, hearing, communications and respiratory solutions are designed to meet or exceed unique protection requirements for law enforcement. Extensive R&D and "voice of customer" has led to integrated solutions that are comfortable for extended wear improving overall mission safety. You protect us. And we thank you by committing to continue designing and supplying protective equipment that helps protect you.

4K SOLUTIONS

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CVE - Service Disabled Veteran
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Description: 4K Solutions, LLC specializes in providing leading information technology and special communications solutions, consulting, professional services and training to Department of Defense and government agencies. 4K Solutions offers local, state and federal government agencies a full line of information technology (IT) products and services. Rapid Feilding of custom communications and networking solutions.

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ADS, Inc. provides equipment, procurement, logistics, and supply chain solutions. We offer access to the largest product and service selection, the broadest array of procurement and contract options, and world-class expertise and support to assist you—every step of the way.

AFBA/5 STAR LIFE INSURANCE ★ ★ ★

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The Armed Forces Benefit Association (AFBA) is a not-for-profit association established in



The background of the entire advertisement is a close-up photograph of an American flag. The flag is draped over a dark, textured wooden surface. The blue field with white stars is visible on the left side, while the red and white stripes are on the right. The lighting is warm, highlighting the texture of the fabric and the wood.

1st Heritage CREDIT

Over the last twenty years First Heritage Credit has proudly served the financial needs of its clients throughout the state of Mississippi, as well as the surrounding states of Alabama, Louisiana, South Carolina and Tennessee. We are proud to be Patriot Level Patriot Partners with the Mississippi National Guard, and enjoy serving our communities through our 35 Mississippi branches.

We are proud to support the Mississippi National Guard, and enjoy giving back to those who freely give so much for us.

Visit www.1stheritagecredit.com

1947 to promote the general welfare and economic interests of military families during war and peace. Over time, we have expanded membership eligibility to also serve federal government employees and contractors, as well as first responders – law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel. Today, we serve more than 600,000 members protected by over \$39B of survivor benefits. More than \$1.9B of survivor benefits have been paid to the families of AFBA members since our founding. Survivor benefits are funded by life insurance underwritten by AFBA affiliate, 5Star Life Insurance Company, a Nebraska company. AFBA - Always Ready, Always There for the National Guard.

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS ★ ★

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Airbus Helicopters is a division of Airbus, a global leader in aeronautics, space and related services. Airbus' mission is to provide the most efficient civil and military helicopter solutions to its customers who serve, protect, save lives and safely carry passengers in highly demanding environments.

AM GENERAL ★

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BAE Systems, Inc. provides support and service solutions for current and future defense, intelligence, and civilian systems; designs, develops and manufactures a wide range of electronic systems and subsystems for both military and commercial applications; produces specialized security and protection products; and designs, develops, produces, and provides service support of armored combat vehicles, artillery systems, and munitions.

BENCHMADE KNIFE COMPANY

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Oregon City, Oregon 97045

For 30 years, Benchmade Knife Company has been committed to exceeding the expectations of elite users around the world. Manufacturing a broad range of products that offer superior quality and performance and built to meet the specific needs of a wide and loyal customer base. In addition, all Benchmade products are covered by the company's LifeSharp service and limited lifetime warranty. For more information about Benchmade's world class products and Customer Service, please call 1-800-800-7427.

BIG ASS FANS ★ ★

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In 1999, the Big Ass Fan Company was born. Kind of. Then called the HVLS Fan Co. (that's High Volume, Low Speed—catchy, right?), we first made our mark selling massive ceiling fans that spun slowly but moved astounding amounts of air.

WINDHAM & LACEY, PLLC

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www.windhamandlacey.com

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The Mississippi Armed Forces Museum honors the servicemen and women of all branches from Mississippi and others who received training in Mississippi during times of war. The Museum's exhibits tell the personal stories of American heroes, and serve to educate future generations about the price paid for freedom and prosperity.

The mission of the Mississippi Armed Forces Museum is to collect, preserve, interpret, exhibit, and hold in public trust for the exclusive benefit of the people, significant historical property related to the history of the State of Mississippi and its contributions to the Armed Forces of the United States from the early 19th Century to the present.

MISSISSIPPI ARMED★FORCES MUSEUM

CAMP SHELBY

www.armedforcesmuseum.us

The fans kept large spaces that lacked air conditioning, such as factories and dairy barns, feeling cool and comfortable—and soon enough, plenty of other customers wanted in. Things moved fast after that and kept moving. Only a few years later, we officially changed our name after customers kept calling and asking if we made “those big-ass fans.” We created a residential fan that blew away ENERGY STAR® ratings and won awards worldwide. In 2014, we had the bright idea to create an LED fixture made of heavy-duty anodized, extruded aluminum so it can handle whatever you can dish out, launching a division appropriately called Big Ass Light™. And we’ve backed everything with serious research, intensive engineering, and an almost obsessive drive to innovate and improve. No matter what we’re doing, we go Big Ass every single day, non-stop.

BREEZER MOBILE COOLING/POWER BREEZER

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Everyone deserves to be cool - especially military personnel! Reduce mistakes, increase productivity, create a safe work environment and keep mission readiness. With Power Breezer from Breezer Mobile Cooling. Mobile and rugged. Mission-ready in no time. Maintenance free. Passed Military Standard 810-G. Designed and assembled in the USA. You face enough threats. Don't let heat be one of them.

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Boeing is the world's largest aerospace company. We offer leading products and services in commercial and military aircraft, space systems, and exploration, and integrated-network communications. Our military products include fighters, bombers, tankers, transports, and helicopters, along with missiles, advanced information, communications and space systems.

CAPITAL ORTHO

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Since its establishment in 1990, the philosophy of Capital Ortho is to serve the community as a comprehensive Orthopaedic care clinic. Made up of 9 physicians, each Doctor is capable of treating a wide range of problems involving the musculoskeletal system. Within the clinic, the Doctors also have areas of special interest and training which means that certain disorders that may need more specialized care. Capital Ortho will always strive to serve the needs of each patient in a caring and concerned manner. We will grow as our patient's requirements grow and will continue to be the preeminent General Orthopaedic clinic in Jackson and central Mississippi.

CONFLICT KINETICS

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Conflict Kinetics (CK), specializes in Synthetic Technology for Small

Arms Weapons Training. Our Patented, Pro-Sports based Human Performance Optimization approach has proven transfer to live fire. We work extensively with DoD: SOF, general purpose forces, and federal agencies. CK offers mobile trainings and systems installations in both CONUS/OCONUS locations, and we have Training Centers in Virginia Beach, VA & the DC area.

EAST MISSISSIPPI VETERANS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

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Meridian, Mississippi 39305

A lasting tribute to honor and recognize the courage and commitment of past and present men and women of Meridian and East Mississippi who have served in the U. S. Armed Services. The East Mississippi Veterans Memorial Park will HONOR, EDUCATE and INSPIRE.

HONOR: To honor and recognize our service members and to instill in each of us a sense of appreciation, respect and awe for the individuals who served honorably.

EDUCATE: To educate visitors, community and future generations about American military history and the role and contributions played in it by Mississippi service members. The memorial will foster a public understanding of the sacrifices made by all and their families during their service to our country, especially to those Veterans who served on the battlefields in order to protect and maintain the freedoms we enjoy.

CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS 2019

INSPIRE: To inspire future generations to serve and carry on those values and love of country that their past ancestors have done before them so that we can continue to have the freedoms and rights that our great nation was founded upon.

EES - EUREKA! EXPEDITIONARY SYSTEMS

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EES (Eureka! Expeditionary Systems) is a unique alliance of best-in-class suppliers in their respective fields: Eureka! (tents and shelters), BATLite (LED lighting), Bike Track (flooring systems), plus partners specializing in C2 systems and ECUs, generators and trailers.

EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVE

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ESGR, a Department of Defense program, was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment. ESGR is supported by a network of more than 3,750 volunteers in 54 committees located across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam-CNMI (Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Volunteers, hailing from small business and industry, government, education, and prior military service bring a vast wealth of experience to assist in serving employers, Service members, and their families. Together with Headquarters ESGR staff and a small cadre of support staff for each State Committee, volunteers work to promote and enhance employer support for military service in the Guard and Reserve.

ESGR has served our country for more than 45 years, fostering a culture in which all employers support and value the employment and military service of members of the National Guard.

ENTERGY

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Entergy Corporation is an integrated energy company engaged primarily in electric power production and retail distribution operations. Entergy owns and operates power plants with approximately 30,000 megawatts of electric generating capacity, including nearly 9,000 megawatts of nuclear power. Entergy delivers electricity to 2.9 million utility customers in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. Entergy has annual revenues of approximately \$10.8 billion and nearly 13,000 employees.

ESS, INC. ★

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ESS Eye Pro is Battlefield Proven. Military personnel worldwide rely on ESS. Their brave deeds feed our passion for combining performance, style, and safety throughout our line of advanced eyewear. ESS Eye Pro exceeds the most stringent military testing standards and is the only brand of eye protection issued to all branches of the U.S. Department of Defense.



FAAC INCORPORATED

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Provider of reconfigurable Operator Driving Simulators (ODS) and Virtual Clearance Training Suites (VCTS) for the Army National Guard. Simulated vehicles include: FMTV, HEMTT, HET, PLS, M915, M939, M1114 Up-Armored HMMWV, RG-31, Panther, Cougar, Buffalo and Stryker. Fixed site and mobile systems. FAAC also fielded the KC-135 Boom Operator Simulator System for the Air National Guard. FAAC has over 45 years providing simulation-based training solutions to the U.S. Military.

GALLS, LLC ★

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Each year, over one million men and women trust us to supply their essential gear and supplies. With over 50 years in the industry, it's easy to see why. Additionally, Galls offers thousands of agencies and departments a 360° solution and provides each with a personalized web portal that makes ordering super easy, fast and convenient. With so many people counting on you to meet the demands of your job and your duty, Galls stands ready to help you meet the challenge.

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Gerber is a leading manufacturer and supplier of multi-tools, flashlights, knives, seatbelt cutters, breaching tools, tactical kits and weapons maintenance tools/kits to the military and federal law enforcement.

G.V. "SONNY" MONTGOMERY CENTER FOR AMERICA'S VETERANS ★★

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A provider of highly-engineered mobile military and emergency response solutions, HDT Global is widely recognized for its industry-leading production of state-of-the-art, fully integrated deployable solutions. With advanced systems currently being used by the U.S. and allied military units stationed worldwide, HDT's products include shelter systems, environmental control systems, generators, heaters, air filtration devices, and robotics.

HELENBAK

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Helanbak is MISSISSIPPI's AR 15 MANUFACTURER located in Columbia, MS. From 3-D designing to production, Helanbak manufactures firearm components and assembles in house. Our product line includes .223 Wylde, 300 AAC BLACKOUT, and SUPPRESSORS. Helanbak utilizes our expertise, passion and persistence to create and uphold precision-machined products acceptable for ourselves and others like us. Helanbak. We Go There. Just Like You.

HUMANA MILITARY - TRICARE EAST

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Veterans Benefits

Am I a veteran? How do I know?

So I am serving in the Mississippi National Guard. I have deployed or I have not. I have deployed but it's not to a combat zone. I just enlisted but got called up to help with flood relief. Am I a veteran? How in the world do I know? If I am a veteran then do I get to go to the VA Hospital? Can somebody please help me? These are the routine questions many members of the Mississippi National Guard ask. It's important you get the answers. We asked Executive Director of Mississippi Veterans Affairs and Mississippi National Guardsman Stacey Pickering to help us.

Before we discuss Veteran benefits, we first need to define the word "veteran".

For VA purposes, a "veteran" is someone who meets the criteria established by Congress for eligibility for VA benefits. Eligibility for most VA benefits is based upon discharge from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions. In most cases, a member of the National Guard or Reserves does not qualify as a veteran unless they are called to active duty under federal orders (e.g. Title 10) or are injured while serving during Active Duty for Training or in a drilling status **AND** must file a claim with the VA.

Continued on page 42.





CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS 2019

INGALLS SHIPBUILDING, A DIVISION OF HUNTINGTON INGALLS INDUSTRIES

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Huntington Ingalls Industries is America's largest military shipbuilding company and a provider of professional services to partners in government and industry. For more than a century, HII's Newport News and Ingalls shipbuilding divisions in Virginia and Mississippi have built more ships in more ship classes than any other U.S. naval shipbuilder. HII's Technical Solutions division provides a wide

range of professional services through its Fleet Support, Mission Driven Innovative Solutions, Nuclear & Environmental, and Oil & Gas groups. Headquartered in Newport News, Virginia, HII employs more than 40,000 people operating both domestically and internationally. For 81 years, the employees of Ingalls Shipbuilding have pioneered the development and production of technologically advanced, highly capable surface warships for the Navy fleet, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Marine Corps, and foreign and commercial customers.

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308 East Pearl Street, Suite 300
Jackson, Mississippi 39201

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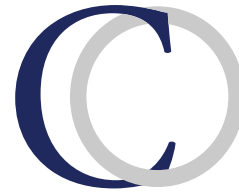
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We owe our freedom to those who serve. Boeing is honored to support the men, women, and families who sacrifice so our nation can stand tall.



State Sponsored Life Insurance

As we have referenced many times, insurance is not a pleasant topic as it forces us to face our own or a loved one's mortality. However, it is a topic that must be discussed to ensure the financial stability of our families. Sadly, one hundred twelve of our families dealt with this eventuality this fiscal year. Our insurance program provided \$1,101,500 in assistance in support of claims of eighty-seven Service members and twenty-five dependents. Unfortunately, four of our families did not have coverage.

Commanders are responsible for ensuring the readiness of their soldiers and airmen- this is the number one priority. Part of this responsibility should be addressing financial management planning, which includes insurance. If our National Guard families are aware of the benefits and minimal cost, they would likely carry at least the minimum coverage the NGAMS Insurance program offers. To that end, leaders are encouraged to help each member understand their whole family can be insured for as little as \$6.80 per month.

Currently, the combined Air and Army National Guard insurance participation is sixty-two percent. The Air National Guard participation is thirty-nine percent while the Army National Guard participation is sixty-eight percent. The NGAMS staff is always ready to provide units their current level reports to assist commanders in reviewing their participation. Again, the goal is to make sure Service members are aware of the tremendous benefit offered by the Association and their responsibility to provide for their dependents when tragedy strikes.

Please contact the NGAMS office at 601-354-7555 for any questions regarding enrollment or other matters. Also, leaders are encouraged to call and set up an insurance presentation at their respective units. Working together, we can make a difference.

Colonel Rodney Harris- Army | Lieutenant Colonel Joelee Sessions- Air
Co-Chairs, Committee on Insurance

1

No Cost \$1,000 Death Benefit for Active Guard Members

This benefit is free to you. All Mississippi active guard members are covered 24/7 whether drilling or not. There's no enrollment necessary - you are automatically eligible for this benefit should something happen to you. Death benefit is paid to named beneficiary, spouse, or next of kin.

2

Basic Coverage

The Basic program provides financial protection in the event of death. It also provides coverage for your spouse and/or children, all at an affordable monthly cost.

Member Coverage

Basic coverage gives you 4 options. After 12 consecutive months, you are eligible for increased insurance which becomes effective on the next June 1 following completion of the 12 month period.
The additional coverage is at no-cost to you.

Member Coverage		
Amount	Monthly cost	After 12 months
\$10,000	\$3.80	\$12,500
\$16,000	\$6.00	\$21,000
\$25,000	\$8.95	\$32,500
\$35,000	\$12.25	\$45,000

Dependent Coverage

If you and your spouse are both members of the MS National Guard you must have your own individual coverage. Either you or your spouse can apply for coverage on children but not both.

Dependent Coverage		
Spouse	Each child	Monthly cost
\$10,000	\$2,500	\$3.00
\$15,000	\$5,000	\$4.00
\$30,000	\$10,000	\$8.00
\$50,000	\$15,000	\$13.00

Separation: If you have been insured for 12 consecutive months, you can retain your basic coverage until age 60. You may keep the same amount in force except for the extra increased insurance. You can pay the monthly contribution on a direct bill basis.

Retirement: At retirement, if you have 20 years of service and have been insured for 12 consecutive months, coverage continues in force until age 60 at the same premium. Between 60 - 70 death benefit reduces to \$10,000, spouse benefit to \$10,000, and dependent children to \$2,500. At age 70, death benefit reduces to \$5,000, spouse benefit to \$5,000, and dependent children remains at \$2,500.

Spouse retention: A surviving spouse age 59 or less of an insured member who dies before age 60 can retain the coverage he/she carried as a dependent of the deceased Guard member and may include related coverage on the already insured dependent children at a slightly higher cost.

Both the Basic and Enhanced coverage has No combat or terrorism exclusions. No geographical area exclusions.

3

Enhanced Coverage

When you have the maximum coverage in the Basic program, you can purchase additional coverage. The Enhanced program provides affordable term life insurance with a level death benefit and only 3 age bands for contributions.

Affordable life insurance

You can purchase \$50,000 of protection for as little as \$4 a month if you're under 50 years of age and don't use tobacco products. Contributions increase at each age band as shown below.

No medical exam for Guard members under age 50 applying for up to \$250,000 of coverage and ages 50-59 up to \$100,000. For spouses, no medical exam under age 40 up to \$250,000 and under age 50 up to \$150,000. Just complete the enrollment form and answer a few health questions.

Coverage from \$50,000 to \$400,000

Based on your individual situation, you decide how much coverage is right for you and your family.

Emergency death benefit payment

Emergency death benefit payment of up to \$15,000 within one business day of notification to help your loved ones with immediate costs.

Full coverage after retirement or separation

As long as contributions are paid, coverage continues to age 70*. There are no occupation restrictions, so regardless of what you do after the military, you're covered. Regardless of any health issues that may develop in the future, you're still covered. Upon retirement or separation, policy contributions will be paid directly to AFBA rather than through allotment.

Spouse coverage

You can easily purchase coverage for your spouse on the same application.

Monthly Contributions (Male/Female) Non-Tobacco**

Age	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$200,000	\$250,000	\$300,000	\$350,000	\$400,000
18-49	\$4.00	\$8.00	\$12.00	\$16.00	\$20.00	\$24.00	\$28.00	\$32.00
50-59	\$18.00	\$36.00	\$54.00	\$72.00	\$90.00	\$108.00	\$126.00	\$144.00
60-69	\$44.00	\$88.00	\$132.00	\$176.00	\$220.00	\$264.00	\$308.00	\$352.00

**Tobacco user contributions are two (2) times non-tobacco user contributions. Tobacco user is one who has used any tobacco product in the past 12 months.

Medical Requirements for Current or Former Military Member

	18-39	40-49	50-59
\$50,000	●	●	●
\$51,000 - \$100,000	●	●	●
\$101,000 - \$150,000	●	●	●
\$151,000 - \$200,000	●	●	●
\$201,000 - \$250,000	●	●	●
\$251,000 - \$300,000	●	●	●
\$301,000 - \$400,000	●	●	●

Medical Requirements for Non-Military Spouse

	18-39	40-49	50-59
\$50,000	●	●	●
\$51,000 - \$100,000	●	●	●
\$101,000 - \$150,000	●	●	●
\$151,000 - \$200,000	●	●	●
\$201,000 - \$250,000	●	●	●
\$251,000 - \$300,000	●	●	●
\$301,000 - \$400,000	●	●	●

● Statement of Health

● Paramed Exam, Blood Profile and Urinalysis

● Paramed Exam, Blood Profile and Urinalysis and Resting EKG

You can provide the protection and peace of mind your loved ones need at affordable rates with AFBA. All active Mississippi National Guard members are eligible to apply. In addition to peace of mind, an AFBA membership gives you access to a wealth of benefits and products designed with your needs in mind.

Visit www.afba.com for complete details on other member benefits.

* After 70th birthday, Enhanced coverage terminates on coverage anniversary date.

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Military Overview Opportunities

Lowe's was founded by World War II veteran Carl Buchan, and it was his leadership, vision, and military skills that helped us grow from a small hardware store in Wilkesboro, NC, to the nation's second largest home improvement retailer and FORTUNE® 50 company. The military is truly a part of our history and an important part of our plan for the future. We recognize, honor, and respect those who serve in our country's military, and encourage veterans, reservists and military spouses to join the Lowe's family. That's why Lowe's is a Military Friendly Employer and why as we continue to grow, so does our commitment to the military as a source of valuable talent.

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MOAA)

Jess Ramirez
703-838-8177 (office)
571-641-1915 (cell)
703-838-5819 (fax)
jessr@moaa.org
201 N. Washington Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

MOAA is the one military association that's with you every step of the way, serving your needs, fighting for your rights. Whether you're deployed overseas, making the transition to a second career or

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MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER ★ ★

Zach New
601-366-6405 (office)
info@familiesfirstforms.org
225 Lakeward Drive, Suite 200
Jackson, Mississippi 39216

The Mississippi Community Education Center (MCEC) is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization designed to provide schools, communities, and families with educational services and training programs on a state-wide basis. MCEC was organized in Mississippi in 1974 through the National Community Education Association (NCEA) and thereby is recognized by NCEA as the official state coordinator of community education in Mississippi. MCEC was created to provide the sound infrastructure needed to carry out the philosophy of life long learning. The purpose of MCEC is the promotion, improvement, and expansion of communities through concept development, educational processes, and resource referrals. MCEC strives to meet the lifelong learning needs of families by uniting educational and business sectors into a collaboration of talents and services, thus creating a more progressive, healthy community. MCEC also provides evaluation services for various federal, state

and local programs and can be instrumental in your organization's program development.

MISSISSIPPI'S TOUGHEST KIDS FOUNDATION

Tanya Mohawk
601-892-1117 (office)
601-842-9862 (cell)
tmohawk@mtkfoundation.com
P. O. Box 520
1323 E. Georgetown Street
Crystal Springs, Mississippi 39059

Mississippi's Toughest Kids Foundation is building Camp Kamassa, Mississippi's first year-round fully handicap accessible camp facility for children and adults with serious illnesses, physical and mental challenges, and other special needs.

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR AMERICA'S VETERANS

Eddie Scales

662-831-0527 (cell)
ebs17@msstate.edu
250 Bailey Howell Drive
Mississippi State, Mississippi 39762

The G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery Center for America's Veterans located on the campus of Mississippi State University is a National Leader in providing comprehensive support through a University based Veteran Resource Center.

MISSISSIPPI VA

Tommy Strickland
601-576-4850
tstrickland@msva.ms.gov
3466 Highway 80 East
Pearl, Mississippi 39208

Mississippi VA is here to support our state's veterans and veteran dependents through superior service, care and assistance. We offer comprehensive information about Mississippi Veterans Homes, veteran-centered events and how to access the benefits Mississippi

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veterans are entitled. We aim to make it as easy as possible for all Mississippi veterans and dependents to access and enjoy the benefits entitled to them by the laws of the United States and Mississippi.

MISSISSIPPI YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY

James Smith
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601-466-6005 (cell)
jsmith@msyouthchallenge.org
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Major General (Retired) Harry Dalton started a group in 1973 of retired officers meeting for breakfast in Jackson. In 1980, Brigadier General



(Retired) Bud Moore became the chairman of the group and provided the name, "At Ease Gang" for the statewide association of retired

STACKED BUT LOADED, AT EASE BUT READY

The retired members of the Mississippi Air and Army National Guard continue to set the standard for service after their days in uniform are complete.



Army and Air National Guard officers. Charlie Morris designed the crest for the organization. At the top and bottom of the crest, portions of magnolia leaves are visible, representing the State of Mississippi's state flower. A scroll near the top of the crest reads, "RETIRED OFFICERS, MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD." The center of the crest has an eagle, symbolic of the United States imposed over two "DD's representing the service the State provided from 1923 to 1968 to the 31st Infantry "Dixie" Division including service during World War II and Korea. Some of the Regiments that comprised the "Dixie" Division date back to 1798. At the base of the crest, three rifles are stack-arms with a scroll with the motto that reads, "STACKED BUT LOADED, AT EASE BUT READY".

Today the At Ease members number near 1,000 strong. The next closest State has only a little over 300 members. Our numbers

AT EASE



allow our Association to increase our delegates by one for every 50 retirees. For years this increased number has allowed Mississippi a great amount of influence at the National Guard Association of the United States Conference.

There are seven official chapters that meet monthly in the state at the following locations: Brookhaven, Grenada, Gulf Coast (Biloxi), Hattiesburg, Meridian, Northeast Mississippi (Tupelo) and Jackson. The AT Ease Gang also meets for breakfast once a year at the Annual National Guard Conference and each year as part of Retiree Day at Camp Shelby.

The At Ease Gang is proud of their communities, state, and country. They are active as individual chapters supporting such worthwhile causes as college scholarships and birthday wishes at the Palmer Children's Homes. They also collectively support our military community as a whole, both those



actively serving and retired.

Please visit www.ngams.org under the Retirees tab and find a chapter near you. Information on each chapter can be found on their respective drop downs. Additional information may also be gained by contacting your retiree representatives COL James "Jim" Jackson (Army Representative) and Maj Gen Erik Hearon (Air Representative). As you complete your service to our state and country we hope you desire to continue serving by joining with a chapter of the At Ease Gang.



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values, life coping skills, education, employment potential and self-discipline necessary to succeed and become productive members of their communities and society.

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MSNG OUTREACH SERVICES

1SG William Valentine
601-313-6712
william.p.valentine.mil@mail.mil
1410 Riverside Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39202

The Mississippi National Guard Outreach Services Program is dedicated to provide essential statewide services and dedicated resources to improve the quality of life for our Service Members and

their Families during all phases of military service. The designated resources of Outreach Services enhance the Readiness, Resiliency, Retention, and Recruitment of Service Members and their Families while providing necessary assistance in times of need to strengthen the partnership among Commands, Service Members, Families and Communities.

Outreach Services implements the following programs to ensure readiness throughout the Mississippi National Guard: Family Readiness, Family Assistance, Child and Youth Services, Strong Bonds, Sexual Harassment/ Assault Response Program, Resiliency/ Risk Reduction/Suicide Prevention, Yellow Ribbon Reintegration, Employment Outreach, Education Services, Casualty Assistance, Military Funeral Honors, Transition Assistance and Survivor Outreach Services.

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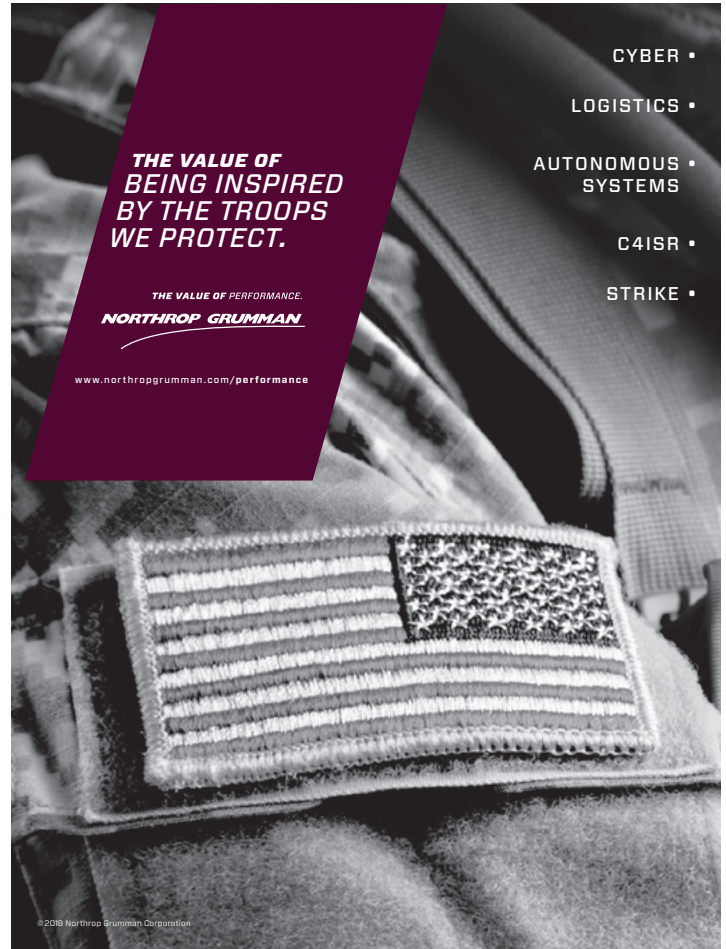
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Vice President, Sales
Worldwide Master Distributor of PowerFlare Safety Beacons
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Fax: 434-326-1301
tricia@pfdci.com
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PROJECT SAFE GUARD AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Dr. Michael Anestis
601-266-6742 (office)
safeguardusm@gmail.com
118 College Drive #5025
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39406

Project Safe Guard is a paid research study aiming to find effective ways to promote safe, healthy lives for Guard members. The study consists of confidential surveys and interviews, totaling less than 5 hours across 6 months. Those who complete the study will receive \$200 in Amazon gift cards. The study is ongoing, and we are flexible with participants' schedules. If you are interested in participating, please complete the screener to see if you qualify (<https://tinyurl.com/safeguardusm>).

PTS, INC. ★

Sheila Cain
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IN ACADEMICS

THE NGAMS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

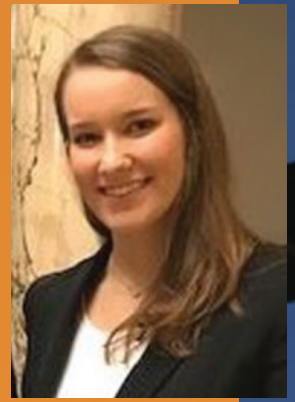
The NGAMS Scholarship, proposed by former NGAMS President Colonel Tom Crosby, is a competitive scholarship that provides \$6,000 per year to exceptionally qualified officers in the Mississippi National Guard and their dependents. Each year the NGAMS Board of Directors approves scholarships to help students in both undergraduate and graduate programs obtain their initial degrees.

We are pleased to announce the inaugural class of recipients earned a 4.0 during their first semester under the scholarship. Look forward to the next class continuing that success. Applications and other details may be found at www.ngams.org.



Ms. Kaitlin Thrash

Already a member of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, Kaitlin Thrash continues her studies seeking a Master of Occupational Therapy at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. When she is not studying and working side jobs Kaitlin is volunteering at the Jackson Free Clinic and UMMC Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. She also built therapy sensory trails for children with disabilities while also supporting the Christian Medical and Dental Association.



What is the unique role of the Mississippi National Guard and why is it so important everyone knows that role?

"The role of the National Guard in maintaining readiness of its military forces to respond at a moment's notice is a critical component to our national security. Since a majority of members of the Mississippi National Guard also hold full-time civilian jobs in their communities, these citizen soldiers are provided with an opportunity to advocate for the Guard and its role in society from the workplace. Family members and friends are also a significant outlet that should be utilized in educating the general public of the role the National Guard plays in society. Social media is yet another growing opportunity that can be exploited for publicizing the value of the National Guard to unknowledgeable civilians on a larger scale in addition to traditional advertising mechanisms such as television, sponsorship, and public marketing opportunities. Members and civilians alike can advocate by spreading the past works, continuous efforts, and future plans of the Guard that aim to serve our communities, state, and country."

2019 NGAMS



Ms. Kristi Thomas

Ms. Kristi Thomas graduated as a 4.0 student in Nursing from Mississippi College and now pursues a Doctor of Nurse Practitioner. She is active in nursing associations on both the state and local level while also balancing the activities of her three children. She previously served as President of the Charlie Company Family Readiness Group and currently serves as President of the 890th Family Readiness Group.

Can you please describe the role of the national guard in our society and how that role could be best communicated to the population that is not in the military?

"The National Guard has always answered our country's call in times of need including armed conflict and natural disasters. The value of the National Guard is its direct connection to the community it serves. In Mississippi, Hurricane Katrina was one of the most catastrophic disasters to impact our state. It was our Mississippi National Guard that answered the call and weathered the conditions to rescue our fellow citizens. Looking through pictures of rescue and recovery efforts during that time, it is gripping to see our soldiers carrying children through flooded waters to safety. It is the National Guard that continues to be present in our times of need. The National Guard fills its ranks with the local population including fathers, sons, mothers, and daughters. The citizens of the United States have a direct, family type connection to the National Guard and this connection is reciprocal. The local population knows the National Guard and the local National Guard unit knows the community."



Mr. Spencer Cole

A student at the University of Mississippi, Spencer Cole seeks an undergraduate degree in Political Science. Spencer is a member of the Rebel football team after serving as team captain during his playing days at Hinds Community College. Former Senior Class President and 4.0 student in high school Spencer was equally adept in the classroom in community college and awarded the Foundation Scholarship for academic excellence as well as the Community College Transfer Scholarship for Academic Excellence.

Your father is a member of the Mississippi Air National Guard. What perspective has that given you about the national guard and what do you want to tell individuals that may not have that experience?

"I know some of the stories of people who work with my Dad, and they are amazing stories of triumph over hardship, and they should be told. He works with doctors, lawyers, engineers, judges, orphans and single parents. These people are incredible and there is no time in U.S. history, more than now, that we need heroes and role models to look up to. Finally, and probably most important, community service. Get out and be seen giving back to the community, investing in the young, elderly and special needs populations. I remember growing up going to Sky Parade, watching military demonstrations, looking at military equipment on display and watching military personnel doing their jobs in front of thousands of civilian visitors from around the state. Those were moments of pride for me as a military dependent. The National Guard is a national treasure and it should be viewed as such, but to get the exposure it deserves will take a deliberate plan and decisive action. I also believe we all have a responsibility. National Guard members and families to expose our friends, coworkers and classmates to our way of life."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Mr. Matt Roberson

Matt completed an amazing high school career as Senior Class President, valedictorian, Wendy's High School Heisman State Finalist, Mr. Copiah Academy, Copiah Academy Hall of Fame, and "Best All-Around Senior" Award. However, he continues that success at Mississippi State as a chemical engineering major while working for MSU's Social Science Research Center. Matt is also Community Service Chair for Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and a student mentor for Project Brickfire Mentoring Program.



As the dependent of the Army National Guard how has the national guard impacted you and what do you want to tell others about serving?

"With my father being deployed in Kuwait, it has opened my eyes to how much the national guard can be utilized. They are a modern-day militia. The national guard has helped my family out in more ways than one. With my dad moving up to full time, it has really dug my family out of a financial hole. My father is making more money and seems so much happier. I have the national guard to thank for that. The national guard serves as our last line of defense. That is very important to me. They help to defend our country in more ways than one. They have a state mission and a national mission. They respond to disasters and civil unrest. They respond to both the Governor's command and to the President's command. The national guard is one of the greatest examples of how an everyday citizen could help serve our country."



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AUG. 30 - SEP. 2, 2019



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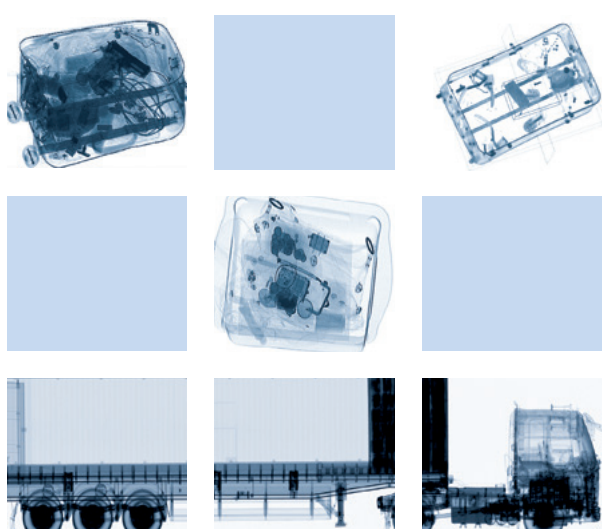
in 1999. In 2001, Trustmark expanded into the Tennessee market and then entered the Florida and Texas markets in 2003 and 2004, respectively. In 2013, Trustmark expanded its footprint to include the Alabama market. Trustmark Corporation, with approximately \$13 billion in assets, is a diversified financial services company. We provide banking, wealth management and insurance solutions through our subsidiaries including Trustmark National Bank, TRMK Risk Management, Inc., Trustmark Investment Advisors, Inc., and Fisher Brown Bottrell Insurance, Inc. With locations in Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas, we have over 2,800 associates working to achieve outstanding customer satisfaction by understanding our customers' businesses and needs and providing appropriate financial solution. We believe building strong customer relationships is the result of knowing

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The G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery Foundation

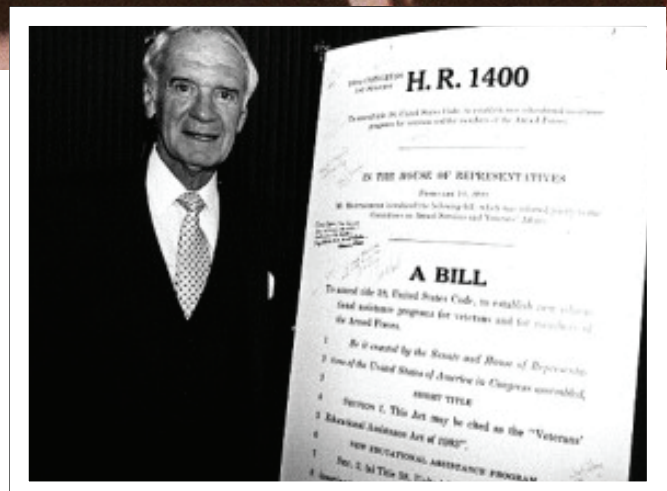
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G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery

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G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery Foundation Award

Captain Jeremiah Malmberg

The National Guard Association of Mississippi is pleased to announce Captain Jeremiah Malmberg has earned the G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery Foundation Leadership Award.

Captain Malmberg currently serves as Administrative Officer for the 2-185th Aviation Regiment. He also volunteered to work in the Exercise Control Group J3 for Southern Strike 2019 coordinating all rotary and fixed wing operations in a complex environment.

Captain Malmberg is the embodiment of the qualities and character that the G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery Leadership Foundation Leadership Award seeks to recognize. No matter the assignment or position, Captain Malmberg has withstood the tests that separate the good from the great. Read his full biography, to include his incredible list of accomplishments and awards, on our homepage www.ngams.org.

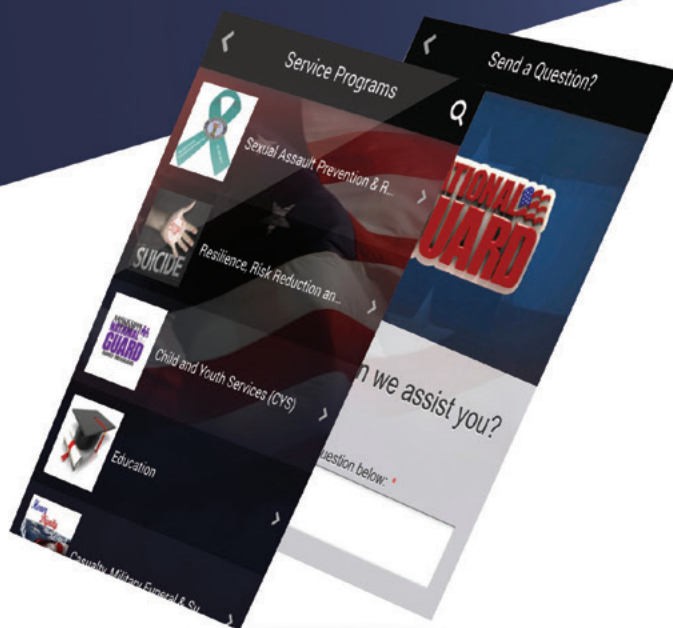




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For veterans who received an honorable or general discharge, there are 4 major benefit programs:

1) Compensations Programs

Disability Compensation

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)

Special Monthly Compensation (SMC)

Can I get disability compensation from VA?

You may be able to get disability compensation if you have a current illness or injury (known as a condition) that affects your body or mind and you meet at least one of the requirements listed below.

Both of these must be true. You:

Served on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training, and Have a disability rating for

your service-connected condition

And at least one of these must be true. You:

Got sick or injured while serving in the military—and can link this condition to your illness or injury (called an in-service disability claim), or

Had an illness or injury before you joined the military—and serving made it worse (called a preservice disability claim), or

Have a disability related to your active-duty service that didn't appear until after you ended your service (called a post-service disability claim)

Note: If you have a service-related disability, you **MUST** file for that disability no later than ONE (1) year from your discharge date



2) Veteran's Pension Programs

What are the types of veteran's pensions available?

Veterans Pension:

Tax-free monetary benefit payable to low-income wartime Veterans

Veteran survivor's pension

Tax-free monetary benefit payable to a low-income, unremarried surviving spouse and/or unmarried child(ren) of a deceased Veteran with wartime service

Do I qualify for a veteran's pension?

To qualify for a veteran's pension, you must be Age 65 or older with limited or no income, **OR** Totally and permanently disabled, **OR** A patient in a nursing home receiving skilled nursing care, **OR** Receiving Social Security Disability Insurance, **OR** Receiving Supplemental Security Income.

3) Free or low-cost medical care through VA hospitals and medical facility

Can I get VA health care benefits?

You may be eligible to receive VA health care benefits if you served in the active military, naval, or air service and didn't receive a dishonorable discharge.

If you enlisted after September 7, 1980, or entered active duty after October 16, 1981, you must have served 24 continuous months or the full period for which you were called to active duty, unless any of the descriptions below are true for you.

This minimum duty requirement may not apply if any of these are true. You:

Were discharged for a disability that was caused—or made worse—by your active-duty service, **or**
Were discharged for a hardship or "early out," **or**
Served prior to September 7, 1980

If you're a current or former member of the Reserves or National Guard, you must have been called to active duty by a federal order and completed the full period for which you were called or ordered to active duty. If you had or have active-duty status for training purposes only, you don't qualify for VA health care.

4) Educational Programs

What are the different types of G.I Bill programs offered?

Chapter 33 - The Post-9/11 GI Bill offers higher education and training benefits to Veterans, Servicemembers, and their families who served after Sept. 10, 2001.

Chapter 30 - The Montgomery GI Bill assists active duty and Reservists with the pursuit of higher education degrees, certificates, and other education and training.

- o **Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty (MGIB-AD)** For

active duty members who enroll and pay \$100 per month for 12 months and are then entitled to receive a monthly education benefit once they have completed a minimum service obligation.

- o **Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR)**

For Reservists with a six-year obligation in the Selected Reserve who are actively drilling.

Additional 'Good to Know' Information for Veterans

1) I have a service-connected disability. Are there special programs for me?

Chapter 31 Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment - THIS IS A RETURN TO WORK PROGRAM:

A veteran may be eligible for vocational rehab benefits if he or she: Received or will receive, a discharge under other than honorable conditions; Is in need of vocational rehabilitation because his or her disability creates an employment handicap.

2) How do I find out if I qualify for veterans' preference when applying for jobs?

Veterans' preference is available to certain categories of veterans when applying for jobs with the federal government. Eligibility requirements and other regulations dealing with veterans' preference are regulated by the Office of Personnel Management. States may also have their own veterans' preference regulations for state government jobs. If you believe your veterans' preference rights have been violated, contact your local VETS office.

3) What is the law that applies to the job rights for National Guard and reserve members being called up for active duty?

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). USERRA can be found at Title 38, U.S. Code, Section 4301 to 4335.

4) Can you tell me about VA Home Loans?

- VA Home Loans are provided by private lenders, such as banks and mortgage companies. The VA guarantees a portion of the loan, enabling the lender to provide you with more favorable terms.
- Your length of service or service commitment, duty status and character of service determine your eligibility for specific home loan benefits.
- For eligibility requirements please visit: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/>

5) Veterans Crisis Hotline/Suicide Prevention

The **Veterans** Crisis Line connects **Veterans** in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of **Veterans** Affairs responders through

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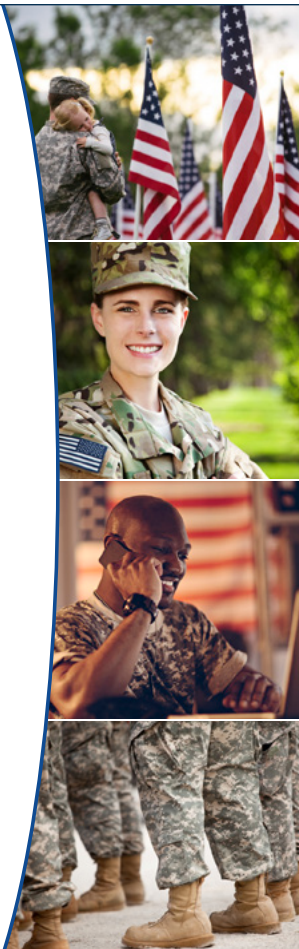
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A close-up photograph of a soldier wearing the ESS Crossbow Eyeshield. The soldier's face is painted with camouflage. The eyeshield is a large, clear, curved protective device mounted on the helmet. Below the main image, there is a smaller image of the eyeshield and a text box with product information.

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a confidential toll-free **hotline**, online chat, or text. Veterans and their loved ones can call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat online, or send a text message to 838255 to receive confidential support 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

End of Enlistment “To Do” list for veterans

- 1) Attend a Transition Assistance Program (TAP) class before your enlistment ends.
- 2) Get a copy of your health service record before you are discharged.
- 3) Register/sign-up for VA Health Care if you are determined to be eligible.
- 4) Register your DD-214 with the local county courthouse. Most counties provide this service free of charge for veterans. This provides a certified copy in the event you lose your copy. Some veterans are concerned if they register their DD-214, then it becomes public record and can be accessed by anyone. Some courthouses now require that a person trying to access a DD-214 prove that he or she is either the person named therein or that he or she has this person's permission. PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR LOCAL COURTHOUSE SECURITY PROCEDURES REGARDING PUBLIC ACCESS TO PRIOR TO REGISTERING YOUR DD-214.

On a final note, I strongly encourage all Service members to view the web link below. It has a wealth of information regarding a wide range of benefits for veterans and expands on the information in this publication:

<https://www.va.gov/opa/persona/index.asp>

You may also visit our homepage at www.msva.ms.gov. We work hand in hand with the National Guard Association of Mississippi and the Mississippi National Guard to assist the men, women and families that so bravely sacrifice so that we may enjoy the freedoms our great state and country provide.

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SOURCE - [HTTP://WWW.HEALTHMAP.ORG](http://WWW.HEALTHMAP.ORG) (REPORTED BETWEEN 8/15/2016 - 2/15/2017)



PROTECTIVE REPELLENT COMPARISON

SOURCES - ¹[HTTPS://WWW.EPA.GOV/INSECT-REPELLENTS/FIND-INSECT-REPELLENT-RIGHT-YOU](https://www.epa.gov/insect-repellents/find-insect-repellent-right-you)

²DURATION OF REPEL INSECT REPELLENT SPORTSMAN MAX FORMULA WITH 40% DEET

³WWW.ENVIRONMENTALHEALTH.CA/SPRING03HAZARDS.HTML

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PROTECTION	DURATION	ODOR	FEEL	SIDE EFFECTS	TOXICITY
 MOSQUITOES, TICKS, FLEAS & BITING FLIES	 UP TO 8 HOURS WITH 20% IR3535™ ¹	 ODORLESS	 NON GREASY DRY-FEEL	 NO SIDE EFFECTS	 NON-TOXIC

DEET

PROTECTION	DURATION	ODOR	FEEL	SIDE EFFECTS	TOXICITY
 MOSQUITOES, TICKS, FLEAS & BITING FLIES	 UP TO 6 HOURS WITH 40% DEET ²	 STRONG CHEMICAL SMELL	 GREASY & STICKY FEELING THAT LASTS FOR HOURS	 POTENTIAL NERVOUS SYSTEM DAMAGE	 UP TO 17% ABSORBED INTO BLOODSTREAM ³

2019 STATE LEGISLATIVE SUCCESSES

UPDATE ON MISSISSIPPI

Through the efforts of the Legislative Committee, the members of the NGAMS, the Director of Legislative Affairs and Economic Development for the Adjutant General and our leadership in the Mississippi Legislature we had our most successful legislative session to date. The following proposals have passed and been signed into law. We thank all those involved for their tireless efforts and their concerns for the well-being of our men and women in uniform and are happy to report the following successes.

HB 1117 - Amends MS Code Ann § 43-21-353, to provide that in cases of reports of child abuse or neglect to the Department of Child Protection Services, the department shall notify the applicable military family advocacy program that there is an allegation of abuse or neglect that relates to that child.

Why this matters to us: This allows our Mississippi Military Department to work with our child protective services and local government to better protect our military families.

HB 1468 - Amends MS Code Ann § 19-5-99, to revise the entities to which economic development districts may transfer industrial sites within industrial parks to include the Mississippi Military Department and the Mississippi National Guard.

Why this matters to us: This is an incredibly important revision as it allows counties to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of property in Economic Development Districts for building of Readiness Centers. This allows our Readiness Centers to be situated in areas that can better serve our communities in times of disaster and help in recruitment due to increased visibility. Readiness Centers will be on main transportation corridors and in areas containing very good infrastructure.

HB 751 - Amends MS Code Ann § 63-1-203, to revise the commercial driver's license act to exclude from the definition of "commercial motor vehicle" any military and commercial equipment owned or operated by the Mississippi Military Department and operated by employees of the Mississippi Military Department.

Why this matters to us: We have pieces of equipment located in various parts of our state that require a

commercial driver's license to operate off a military installation such as Camp Shelby. However, our personnel are otherwise qualified to safely operate the equipment with our current training. This alleviates the expense and requirement of the commercial driver's license.

SB2049 - Amends MS Code Ann § 37-103-19, to provide that the spouse or child of an active duty member of the United States Armed Forces stationed in Mississippi shall be deemed an in-state resident for purposes of determining tuition at state institutions of higher learning and community colleges; to provide that such spouse or child may continue to be designated as an in-state resident if he or she maintains continuous enrollment in good standing.

Why this matters to us: We have experienced issues with Service members living technically outside of the state (for example in Memphis or Mobile) or who have recently moved to Mississippi having to pay out of state tuition for their dependents. This change relieves that problem.

SB 2050 - Requires school districts to accept an application for enrollment and course registration by electronic means for any pupil whose parent is transferred, or is pending transfer, within the state while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order.

Why this matters to us: This is especially important for AGR Service members who move to different locations within Mississippi as it eases the burden on the families to relocate during odd times of the year.

SB 2053 - Requires the board of trustees of state Institutions of Higher Learning and the Mississippi Community College Board to adopt policies requiring the award of educational credits for courses that are part of a student's military training or service.

Why this matters to us: This law assists Service members in obtaining academic credit for degrees without having to repeat requirements completed while with the military.

SB 2452 - Amends MS Code Ann § 73-50-1, to provide that an occupational licensing board issuing a license,

certification or registration to a military spouse shall approve or deny the application within a certain amount of time if the spouse's orders are in Mississippi for 36 months or less.

Why this matters to us: This creates a deadline for occupational license boards to process occupational licenses for the Service members and spouses.

SB 2679 - Amends MS Code Ann § 33-13-31, to increase certain fines provided for a commanding officer's nonjudicial punishment under the Mississippi Code of Military Justice.

Why this matters to us: This gives commanders a better deterrent for discipline of units and puts Mississippi in line with UCMJ.

SB 2680 - Amends MS Code Ann § 33-13-159, to clarify that the decision to grant a trial before a summary courts-martial is reserved to the special or general court-martial convening authority, respectively.

Why this matters to us: The current system mandates approval authority on the Adjutant General level for a determination of court martial. The new revision allows for lower level commanders to make the determination allowing more local disposition of cases.

The Mississippi Military Department was provided an increase in funding to include funding for the Youth Challenge Program and Armed Forces Museum at Camp Shelby. The Mississippi Military is one of very few state agencies that did not take a cut in their funding and one of even fewer to receive an increase.

Finally, **the Mississippi Military Department** was able to gain \$2,000,000 in bond money to planning, construction, repair, renovation, replacement, furnishing and equipping readiness centers around Mississippi. These matching funds will be combined with the federal funding provided by the efforts of our federal delegation.

To educate our elected officials in our service and needs, the Mississippi National Guard Legislative Committee had a well-attended luncheon during the 2019 Legislative Session to include 42 senators and 122 representatives present along with Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves, Treasurer Lynn Fitch, Agriculture Commissioner Andy Gipson, and Speaker of the House Philip Gunn.

The NGAMS Legislative Committee will continue to educate our elected officials on the mission and importance of the Mississippi National Guard and support legislation that benefits our members.

Photo Credits

Front Cover

Cover based on an original photo by U.S. Air National Guard Senior Airman John Linzmeier

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The 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team is the first Army unit to ship equipment using the Port of Gulfport. The 155 uses the port to send their equipment to the Middle East in preparation of their upcoming deployment. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Brittany Johnson)

Pages 2 and 3

SGT. Ryan Marsh, an infantryman assigned to Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment, 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team, performs dry fire drills prior to an aerial sniper exercise at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Jan. 29, 2019. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Jovi Prevot)

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Maj. Gen. Janson D. Boyles, the adjutant general of Mississippi, and Brig. Gen. Trent Kelly, land component commander, Mississippi National Guard, greet Soldiers from the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team at the 172d Airlift Wing in Flowood, April 6, 2019. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Victoria Miller)

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SPC. Matthew Jenkins is welcomed home by his father, Darryl Jenkins; mother, Sandra Jenkins; and sister, Darrilyn Jenkins, at the 172d Airlift Wing in Flowood, Miss., April 6, 2019. Jenkins was deployed to Kuwait with the 1st Squadron, 98th Cavalry Regiment, 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team in support of Operation Spartan Shield. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Edward Lee)

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